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A LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

Neglect of Youthful Voters

Dear Reader,

One of the ironies of the countrywide electoral process is that while all the political parties whole-heartedly supported the Constitution Amendment reducing the minimum age for entitlement to vote from 21 to 18, during the election campaigns adequate effort was not made to win the goodwill of these youth—about 4.5 crore in number.

The newly enfranchised youth had also hailed the gesture when it was made early in 1989. Many of them, both boys and girls, in fact felt very happy about their new privilege. But they did not show enough interest in getting their names enrolled as voters when the proper time and opportunity came. However, it was not the fault of the youth at all places.

Reports indicate that for a sizable number of Bombay's youth, voting for the first time has proved to be an illusion. Many teenaged voters found to their dismay that their names were missing from the electoral rolls. The State Election Commission maintained that it made every effort to register the new voters. A special enrolment drive was undertaken on a door-to-door basis some months before the poll.

While the registration process was partially successful—nearly 4.4 lakh new voters representing 7 per cent of Bombay's electorate were enrolled—the door-to-door survey apparently omitted some areas. Lakhs of teenaged voters did not check in advance whether their names were in the lists. Nor did they take note of the information given by the Election Commission on the TV and Doordarshan of the manner in which new voters could register themselves.

The unfortunate result has been that, through oversight or ignorance on the part of youngsters, the potential impact of quite a large number of youth on the election result could not be made.

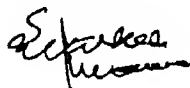
We feel confident that if there had been many more youth of the 18-21 group had exercised their right of franchise, at least some of the reactionary and undeserving persons who have managed to scrape through would have been kept out. Instead, there would have been more young M.P.s.

The Prime Minister has thanked the youth for supporting candidates of the National Front and its allied groups. Young men and women should be vigilant in the coming months so that the Government does not tolerate corrupt and criminal elements as the previous set-up often did.

We are not suggesting that the cream of youth should become full-fledged politicians, but we do believe that they can help a great deal in preventing the new administration from deviating from the path of duty to the country.

With best wishes for all-round success in the New Year,

Yours sincerely,



New Govt: Illusion and Reality

The overdue and eagerly awaited popular government is now installed, much to the relief of millions of people who were stifled and disillusioned because they were being fed on promises unmatched by concrete steps to make their life happier. In 1984 they were assured a clean, honest and efficient administration. What they actually got was a continuing stink of corruption, arrogance of power and blatant disregard of their rights. The people's verdict was undeniably for a change wherever they had been badly let down.

Mr V.P. Singh led the campaign against corruption and for honesty in public life, true democracy instead of the fake one that they had been provided with, and the rule of law without which there cannot be a truly people's government. But this is an opportunity for genuine service, not for verbal jugglery, deceptive antics, alluring but impracticable projects and cover-ups for unethical deeds. The Janata Government (1977-79) broke into pieces because of the excessive personal ambitions of some top category leaders, the mutual jealousies and the factious groups a few of which contained saboteurs. The bitter echoes of that experience should make the National Front wiser. The alternative is utter disaster.

Now is the opportunity for rectifying the errors committed during the last five years and for adopting corrective measures to end the stink and show convincingly what true servants of the people and men of the masses can do. Their future depends on performance. The time is short and the tasks are stupendous. This double drawback carries a vital lesson.

The new Government, being a minority one, has to depend for survival on the BJP and the Communists (Right and Left). Since both these parties have conflicting demands and are strongly opposed to each other on basic principles, it will be difficult to reconcile their stands. These policy conflicts and contradictions are likely to endanger the stability of the ministry. The BJP, for instance, has pointed to the "cruel farce" of Lok Sabha elections in the Kashmir Valley because of the boycott "order" by the militant groups. What a pity that no national party contested the Kashmir poll. The extremists had their way. All talk of a free and fair poll in the country sounds hollow in such a context. But dismissal of the J & K ministry as demanded by the BJP would hardly help. The situation in Kashmir is admittedly alarming but it requires patience and maturity to evolve

a workable formula. The challenge of secessionism is indeed formidable.

No less complex is the Ram Janambhoomi-Babri Masjid tangle, both parties to which seem determined not to yield ground. Since neither is inclined to accept a compromise, on what basis will the V.P. Singh Government evolve a solution? Fundamentalism and bigotry are dismal trends which no law or State order can remove. Sound public opinion, tolerance, a sane approach and willingness to adapt oneself to sensitive situations are urgently needed. It is towards that goal that the energies of the parties now holding power need to be directed.

Another test which the common man will apply to judge the Government's performance is concrete improvement in the quality of life and of course the extent of cleanliness which it ensures in public affairs. Mr V.P. Singh was described as "Mr Clean" when he repeatedly urged appropriate action against the guilty parties which had robbed the country of Rs 64 crore and more in the Bofors deal. A person like Mr V.P. Singh may be clean himself but what matters more is the honesty as well as integrity of persons associated with him and functionaries of the regime at various levels. In a country where corruption peeps out at all levels of the administration the aim of ensuring unexceptionable dealings and preventing fraud are challenging tasks.

The new ministry also stands committed to amendment of the Official Secret Act so as to make the functioning of government more transparent and open to public scrutiny. It is unwarranted secrecy that serves as a cover-up for misdeeds. Deep suspicions of such attempts brought much disgrace to the Rajiv regime. Preservation of the Constitution and of established democratic institutions in the country are important for building up and maintaining the country's image. The ousted regime whittled down individual freedom, flouted several Constitutional norms and democratic practices in a bid to ensure immediate political gains. Even Parliament's prestige was eroded. There is every reason to hope that the National Front Government, which has persistently exposed its predecessor's malpractices, will not itself indulge in undemocratic acts, however great the threat to its existence. If propriety rather than expediency becomes the watchword of the new Government, half the battle would be won.

READERS' FORUM

CHALLENGES TO AUTHORITARIANISM

The upsurge for democracy and basic human rights, which has heralded radical changes in the economic and political scenario, shows that authoritarianism is on its last legs. From the introduction of "glasnost" and "perestroika" in the U.S.S.R. and similar liberal measures which are being introduced in other Communist countries, it becomes evident that no government can survive long by throttling individual liberty. Ultimately, it has to bow before the power of the people. Let us hope that in the next century authoritarianism would disappear completely.

Rubina Sultana

Manoj Prasad

Your essay "Challenges to Authoritarianism" reflects the panorama of world politics. The demand for democracy has surfaced in many quarters, fervently aiming at ending authoritarianism, autocracy and dictatorship. It is a healthy symbol of attunement for the decline suffered by human rights. The virile eloquence voiced by Chinese students against their dictatorial government and a magical change in the body politic of Poland, Hungary and the U.S.S.R. amply demonstrate the strength of their demand for democracy. Although the concept of democracy, by and large, has been reduced at some places to a form of "government of corrupt few by incompetent many", concerted endeavour will help in restoring the glory associated with it. The vociferous challenge to authoritarianism is truly a harbinger of democracy.

Komal Chandra

Lalitendra Kumari

SYCOPHANCY IN SCIENCE

The Topical Essay "Sycophancy in Science" (Nov '89) sounds a red alert to scientists of all hues in the country. It is indeed tragic that India, despite being the third largest scientific manpower reservoir in the world, has failed to put up a creditable show. As a corollary, it continues to rely heavily on foreign countries for its industrial and defence needs, the enormity of the financial loss in the process notwithstanding.

The paramount reason for this prior showing is the unscientific behaviour of Indian scientists. Their quest for pelf, power and prestige has divorced them from the basic realities of the country. This situation is aggravated by the crafty politicians who habitually insert their finger in every pie.

At one time India could scale new heights in the field of science and technology with outstanding scientists such as Meghnad Saha, C.V. Raman, Jagdish Bose and Homi Bhabha. The present-day scientists are sweating to ensure for India a resounding entry into the 21st century. Given the demoralised lot of scientists today, one question springs up: Can they?

Komal Chandra

Gurpreet Chandra Dash

COLLAPSE OF JUDICIARY

I read with interest the hard-hitting cover feature 'Collapse of the Judiciary' (Dec '89 issue). There is no denying the fact that our

judicial system is crumbling day by day and is at present 'the most mismanaged public sector in the country'. The English poet Goldsmith once said, "Laws govern the poor, and the rich rule the law." This is absolutely true of our country.

The Constitution of India provides for equality before the law and equal protection of the law to all citizens, irrespective of caste, creed, sex, religion and status. Unfortunately, such equality is a mockery in this country where the scales of justice are tilted in favour of the rich and the affluent at the expense of the less endowed citizens.

The cases deserving urgent hearing are not taken up promptly and get accumulated in different courts, thereby causing physical harassment and mental torture to poor litigants.

The judicial procedures are obsolete and redundant. It is time for taking concrete measures to restructure the judicial set-up to ensure quick and even-handed justice to everyone.

Mehmet Ciftci

Shashank Shekhar

EDUCATION FOR DEMOCRACY

Education plays a big role in making political and socio-economic changes for the betterment of society. Extremism, communalism, secessionism and separatism cannot be checked if people are illiterate. For a progressive and democratic country it is very important to educate the masses. The cases of booth capturing and violence during elections have become common, especially in rural India, because the majority of the people are not educated.

Pranabjit Datta

Santosh Kumar Jaiswal

THREAT TO SECULARISM

Though secularism is India's official creed, communalism has been one of our major and highly complex problems since the beginning of the 20th century. The highly fragile fabric of Indian polity is engulfed by the hydra-headed monster of communalism. India is like a tinderbox which can be ignited by the feeblest of sparks. There is an ongoing debate about who is more secular—the Hindu, the Muslim, the Sikh or the Jain. But we cannot have a secular Hindu nor a secular Muslim. We can only have a secular Indian.

The secular ideal confining religion to the home, projecting a collective commitment to political and economic programmes and nourishing a humane Indian personality has been conveniently forgotten. The tragedy is that the politicians do not hesitate to fish in the troubled waters of communalism. They exploit the religious sentiments of the masses in a bid to woo them petty electoral gains. This makes secularism in India a sheer make-believe.

Vandana Chandra

Ganeswar Jena

CLEANER PUBLIC LIFE

Your introspective editorial "Urgency of Cleaner Public Life" (Dec '89) made informative reading. Four decades of democracy in post-independence India could not eradicate the scars of poverty, illiteracy and inequality. We have been left hackward in the frantic race for

progress, and self-reliance.

Certainly our polity is at fault. The Indian political frame does not inspire or awaken our countrymen to strive hard for a secular, solvent India.

Political leaders seldom conform to the nation's ideals. Far from setting an example for others, they ignore the civic code of conduct for parochial political gains. The clandestine nexus between political figures and underworld criminals makes a mockery of democracy. Most of the Government's plans and projects prove fruitless. The lust for power and the tendency to amass fortunes remain the principal characteristics of the representatives of the people.

Patna

Sujay Kumar

INDIAN CINEMA

The fate of one of the world's most prolific film industries hangs precariously in the balance today. On the other hand, its adverse effects on youth cannot be ignored. The 'A' certificate (for adults only) has no significance because the video has rendered unreachable what cinema halls keep away from the youth. The rapidly growing video libraries and other allied agencies have changed the situation altogether. Even school-going children are not safe from video hazards.

The attraction among youth for video cassettes is getting greater day by day. The time that should be devoted to constructive work is being spent in front of TV. Thus the future of the so-called 'pillars' of the country can well be imagined.

The Government must lay down detailed guidelines for film producers if the country's future is to be safeguarded.

Jayprakash Rawat

S.K. Ganguly

POWER OF THOUGHT

The letter from the Editor under the heading "The Power of Thought" must have impressed all readers of "C.M." I thank you for bringing such an explanation of a well-known saying. It has not only encouraged the thought processes but has also taught us the way to do things systematically. The letter has proved to be a stimulant for the readers' brain.

Koravaram Biju

Aritha J.

From the depth of my heart I wish to thank the "Competition Master" with the help of which I could sit for several competitions and acquired jobs in succession: Education Instructor, I.A.F.; Clerk-cum-cashier, State Bank of India; Clerks' Grade, Ministry of External Affairs; Coin examiner in Reserve Bank of India; Clerk in Canara Bank; Clerks' Grade, second attempt; Customs & Central Excise Inspector.

I want to share my happiness with you and wish all the best to readers of C.M. with the hope that the magazine will maintain its fine performance for the guidance of students and thus render real service to the nation.

Gopalpur

Deepak Kumar

May be you have recently appeared in any competitive examination.

We shall be grateful if you could send us the question papers. The original papers will be returned along with the postage spent by you.

Your gesture will be highly appreciated.

Notes on Current National Affairs

V.P. Singh as P.M. — Hour of Triumph

December 2, 1989, was a historic day in modern India's political history because it marked a dramatic switch-over from Mr Rajiv Gandhi to Mr V.P. Singh who was sworn in as Prime Minister after his unanimous election as leader of both the Janata Dal and the National Front Parliamentary parties.

While extending the invitation to Mr V.P. Singh, President Venkataraman observed that since the largest party in the Lok Sabha, the Congress (I), had not staked its claim to form the government, he was asking Mr V.P. Singh, leader of the second largest party, to form the ministry. Mr V.P. Singh would have to establish his majority in the House by winning a vote of confidence within 30 days.

Mr Devi Lal, the then Chief Minister of Haryana, and a senior leader of the Janata Dal, was sworn in as Deputy Prime Minister, a post that had not been filled for over a decade.

In his first address to the nation after becoming Prime Minister, Mr V.P. Singh stressed the need for a national consensus to solve the pressing problems such as those of Punjab. He assured the minorities that it would be his Government's endeavour to ensure that they lived without fear and became equal partners in the country's progress.

Three days later, 15 Cabinet rank ministers and two Ministers of State were inducted into the new Cabinet. Some more ministers were to be added later to make the ministry fully representative of all groups constituting the victorious National Front. Notable among the new Ministers are Mr Madhu Dandavate, Mr George Fernandes, Mr Arun Nehru, Mr I.K. Gujral, Mr P. Upendra and Mr K.P. Unnikrishnan, most of whom were former ministers or opposition stalwarts. Mrs Maneka Gandhi was one of the Ministers of State sworn in. Care had been taken to include

representatives of various regions and almost all non-Congress parties.

The talent and experience of Mr Ramakrishna Hegde will be utilised through his induction as Vice-Chairman of the Planning Commission. The subtle strategy Mr V.P. Singh followed in allocating portfolios is to be commended. By entrusting the key Home portfolio to Mufti Mohammed Sayeed he sought to appease the minorities and also shifted the responsibility for solving communal problems to a person who inspires confidence among certain categories of aggrieved people.

General Elections — November, 1989

In a bid to seek the people's verdict on the two bills—the 64th and the 65th Constitution amendments designed to streamline the functioning of the Panchayati Raj Institutions and the urban local bodies, which had been rejected by the Rajya Sabha, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, in a surprise move, announced general elections. The dates fixed for the polling were November 22, 24 and 26, 1989. Five States also went to the polls simultaneously.

Despite the intensive campaigns by Mr Rajiv Gandhi, the unprecedented level of newspaper advertising estimated to have cost the Congress (I) over Rs 70 crore, and the disunited opposition which had limited resources and had to organise its anti Rajiv Gandhi campaigns at short notice, the Congress (I) suffered a major setback. The electorate's verdict amounted to a rout in the North and Central States, especially U.P., Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat and Himachal Pradesh. The number of Lok Sabha seats the party could get out of the 525 which were contested was less than half its strength in the eighth Lok Sabha. Many of the Central Ministers were defeated by Janata Dal, BJP or other parties.

However the Congress (I) had the satisfaction of capturing two important southern States, Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka, which had been opposition strongholds for the past five years and more. A highly significant and humiliating defeat was that of Mr N.T. Rama Rao, Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh and President of the National Front and for a long time an idol of the people in the South. N.T.R. and his Telugu Desam Party were rejected by the electorate, not because of ideology or as a result of any wave but for sheer lack of performance and failure to implement the promises he had made to the electorate.

The elections were the most hotly contested and the most violent in India's post-independence history. The entire process was disfigured by electoral malpractices such as booth capturing, rigging on a large scale at several centres, murders and assaults, intimidation of the voters, misuse of government machinery in several constituencies. The rigging and booth capturing etc in some segments of the Amethi constituency, from where Mr Rajiv Gandhi himself stood, were so scandalous that at the request of eminent citizens and the tell-tale evidence published in newspapers, the Election Commission, after making investigations through its special team, ordered a re-poll in about 100 places.

Re-poll was ordered in as many as 1200 centres in the country, mostly in Bihar, where the arrangements for polling were poor and the defiance of the regulations by the voters, especially the notorious gangsters, was reported on a large scale.

A notable feature of the election results was the unprecedented and massive victories of the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) which won as many as 88 seats in the Lok Sabha.

The National Front fared poorly in Kerala where the CPI (M)-led Left Democratic Front hoped to improve its position of three Lok Sabha seats.

won in 1984. But the Congress (I) captured 17 out of the 20 seats this time, causing a major setback to the ruling group in the State.

In Tamil Nadu also the ruling DMK's prestige was eroded. The Congress-AIADMK alliance, which bagged 37 of the 39 seats in the 1984 poll, repeated its performance.

Thus the Congress avenged its defeat in the State Assembly polls held in 1985. Tamil Nadu returned all the three Central Ministers to the Lok Sabha; elsewhere, Central Ministers fared poorly.

Lok Sabha Poll: Results At A Glance

Total Seats 545 (including two nominated members). Total Seats contested by various parties 525. Congress (I) 193; Janata Dal 141; BJP 88; CPI-M 32; CPI 12; AIADMK 11; Congress-S 1; JMM 3; IUML 1; IUML-S 2; Kerala Congress (M) 1; Independents & Others 16; Indian People's Front 1; Telegu Desam 2; Forward Bloc 3; UCPI 1; NC 3; RSP 4; Akali Dal (Mann) 6; BSP 3; Sikkim Sangram Parishad 1.

(Elections to 4 seats were countermanded. Elections to 14 Assam seats could not be held because the electoral rolls were not complete.)

Rajiv Gandhi Resigns: Even though the Congress (I) emerged as the largest group in the Lok Sabha with 193 seats, way ahead of other parties, Mr Rajiv Gandhi adopted the right course in deciding to submit his resignation from the Prime Ministership. He did so on November 29, disregarding the suggestion made by some enthusiasts that the Congress (I) should stake its claim to form the Government. The President, while accepting the resignation, asked him to continue in office as a caretaker Prime Minister until a new government was formed. Later the same evening the Congress Parliamentary Party re-elected him as its leader. Thus he is the new Leader of the Opposition in the new Lok Sabha.

Accepting the electorate's verdict "in all humility", Mr Rajiv Gandhi said in a broadcast to the nation on November 29 that he and his party would offer "constructive cooperation" to the new Govern-

ment. "With all my strength", he said, "I will continue to serve the people of India. Elections are won and lost but the work of a nation never ends. India could not survive without secularism; we (Cong-I) would do everything to uphold secular values."

He made some interesting observations which reflected his line of thinking. "For a change, we could sit in the opposition and enjoy the discomfiture of those who have criticised us in the past." He rejected the suggestion that defections should be encouraged from other parties to ensure a majority for the Cong (I).

He traced the party's election debacle in the North to "a very strong communal wave". He conceded that his party's organisational structure could not cope with this wave. There was much resentment in the party against the coterie which was very close to the P.M. and which as some critics put it, "systematically created a gulf between the leadership and the rank and file".

Causes of defeat of Congress (I) in North: The shocking defeat of the Congress (I) in several States of the North and Central States, notably the Hindi belt is ascribed to several factors.

1. Bofors and other scandals at high levels the stink of which remained weeks after the sensational disclosures and despite the firm denials and contradictions by official spokesmen.

2. The coterie rule at the Centre, the total dependence of the Prime Minister and party President on a small group of inexperienced persons who functioned in isolation and did not maintain close contacts with the party rank and file. The leader was insulated from the people.

3. The soaring prices of essential commodities despite the assurances given by Ministers that they would be checked.

4. The internal squabbles in the Congress party; the large number of dissidents did not put their heart and soul into the election campaigns. In States such as M.P. the top leaders were at loggerheads. The frequent

changes in the Chief Ministers disturbed many partymen; the foisting of leaders on legislators without reaching a consensus.

5. The inclusion of 18-21 year youth in the electorate worked to the disadvantage of the party. So also the seat adjustments made by the opposition. The Cong (I) leaders thought the opposition would not agree on one-to-one contests; actually more than half the contests were virtually straight contests, the other parties or groups being just marginal and were among the "also rans".

6. The voters throughout the country wanted a change in the style and composition of the Government which had proved inefficient and could not fulfil the people's aspirations. The bulk of the candidates fielded by the Congress (I) were sitting M.P.s who had not nursed their constituencies out of over-confidence and sheer complacency. They could not bring about the socio-economic revolution their leaders had promised.

7. Last-minute changes in the constituencies and the refusal of the High Command to let many candidates contest from the constituencies they wanted.

Foreign Reactions: The election results have naturally evoked different reactions in neighbouring countries and elsewhere across the seas.

Pakistan: Most commentators agree that the change in the set-up in New Delhi will not mean a change in the current relationship with Islamabad. But the totally unwarranted assumption voiced by some orthodox quarters is that the poll means "Hinduisation of Indian politics", i.e., the de facto conversion of India into a "Hindu State". Another leading paper said the Indian ruling elite's response to the challenge posed by regional parties is to try "unifying the Hindu Rashtra (nation) on the communal platform".

A Lahore weekly pointed out that the riots triggered by the Babri Masjid issue "presents a grim portent for India's future as a secular democracy". Many Pak critics think that India is in for a long period of instabil-

ity.

U.S. Assures Cooperation: The U.S. administration made it a point to recall the "close relationship" between President Bush and the former Prime Minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, but offered, as expected, to work closely with the new political set-up in India.

Commenting on the post-election scene in India, a spokesman of the White House described the electoral process in India as "a positive sign". In the World Bank and other financial circles Mr V.P. Singh is known as the architect of economic reforms marked by trade liberalisation and great emphasis on privatisation—a virtual obsession with the World Bank.

Meanwhile, the Soviets expressed their readiness to continue developing relations with India. The outcome was naturally determined by the will of the Indian electors, a Soviet Foreign Ministry spokesman said in Moscow.

Indication of the common Sinhala sentiment was reflected in a front-paged news item in the government-run "Daily News" which quoted a recent statement of President Premadasa as saying that "those who harmed Lanka suffered their fate". He did not make any direct reference to India or to Mr Rajiv Gandhi.

The LTTE leader said his organisation would look forward to a new relationship with the new Government which, he hoped, would adhere to the present understanding with Sri Lanka.

Several newspapers commented editorially on the change of political scene in India. The "Times of Zambia" asked: "Could India be another Italy where governments could change like the seasons. The world, especially the non-aligned countries, would welcome a stable India because it is an important country in the Third World."

Dhaka: The Bangladesh opposition leader, Sheikh Hasina, has said that recent events in India indicated that democracy had become a strong institution there. The Indian polls had once again proved that the ballot-

box was the best means to change a government in a democracy. Sheikh Hasina, who is the Awami League chief, has been demanding "free and fair" polls in Bangladesh.

British Reactions: In an editorial (titled "Great was the fall") "The Times" said that more broadly, the election result represents the determination of the Indian voter to hold all politicians to account. It was a judgement on their performance and with the exception of communists in West Bengal, they were found wanting. According to the paper, the results show that regionalism, at least temporarily, appears to have been checked while communalism emerged in the north. The Congress, in an attempt to appease both Hindus and Muslims, jettisoned its traditions and failed, while the BJP stuck to its Hindu orientation and won almost 40 times as many seats as in 1984.

"The Guardian" talked of the fatal flaws that felled Mr Rajiv Gandhi. His leadership was marked from the earliest days by private charm and public petulance. His ostentation and conspicuous lack of common touch led to his undoing and then he also suffered from high-handedness and aloofness. "There were around Mr Gandhi at various times some of the most mistrusted men in India—Amitabh Bachchan, Capt Satish Sharma, Mr Dhirubhai Ambani and Mr Lalit Suri". "The Guardian", however, paid a rich tribute to Mr Gandhi for his prompt and honourable response to the election results. "Nothing so became the sixth Prime Minister of India as the manner of his going".

"The Financial Times", said Mr Gandhi was a premier undermined by deep insecurities. When he came he brought with him enthusiasm, an instinct for reform and a clean government, and a realisation of the need to modernise the Indian economy by opening it up to competition. The Bofors scandal played a big part in Mr Gandhi's undoing. Mrs Indira Gandhi would have been ruthless enough to have removed members of her inner circle who came under suspicion and thus damaged her image as Prime Minister. Mr Rajiv Gandhi never did

so, which encouraged suspicions that he was involved in a cover-up. "He had a hard task in winning back the hearts and minds of village India."

Switch-Over in States

The electorate's verdict in the five States which went to the polls when the elections for the Lok Sabha were held, reflected the same trend—Vote for a Change—because of the disappointment with the ruling party's performance. While the Congress (I) swept the South, Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh in particular, (these were strongholds of the parties then in the opposition), the Janata Dal and the BJP inflicted a severe defeat on the Congress (I) in the North. The Congress was virtually routed in U.P. which had all along been its stronghold. The notable changes in the State regimes were:

U.P.: The Janata Dal won a majority of the Assembly seats. Chief Minister N.D. Tiwari resigned and the Assembly was dissolved. A Janata Dal ministry headed by Mr Mayam Singh Yadav was sworn in. The composition of the new Assembly is: Total strength 425; Janata Dal 203; Cong (I) 91, BJP 57, CPM*2, CPI 6, Janata Party 1, Lok Dal (B) 2, BSP 13, Independents and others 41. All the State Ministers except one were defeated.

Andhra Pradesh: Mr N.T. Rama Rao's Telugu Desam Party was routed in the poll and the Cong (I) secured an absolute majority, ending the seven-year dominance of NTR, the god-like film hero. Dr M. Chenna Reddy was sworn in as Chief Minister with a full-fledged Cong (I) ministry on December 3. The Congress (I) bagged 180 seats in the Assembly which has a strength of 294 (in the dissolved House it had only 49 seats).

Karnataka: The Cong (I) established itself firmly, capturing the State after several years. It defeated the Janata Dal, the BJP and other parties. The final tally was: Total Assembly seats 224, countermanded 2, Cong (I) 177, Janata Dal 24, BJP 4, JP 2, AIADMK 1, MES 4, Ryota Sangh 2, Independents 7. Mr Veerendra Patil became the Chief Minister.

Sikkim: The Sikkim Sangram Parishad made a clean sweep of all the 32 seats, coming to power for the third time in succession. The other parties fared poorly.

Goa: With both the Maharashtra-wadi Gomantak Party (MGP) and the Congress (I) securing 18 seats each in the State Assembly, there was a stalemate. The Governor, therefore, recommended President's rule.

New Chief Ministers were also appointed in the States in which the Cong (I) had suffered severe setbacks in the Lok Sabha polls and the party leaders took the responsibility for the debacle. The new incumbents were: Dr Jagannath in Bihar, Mr Hardeo Joshi in Rajasthan, Mr Hemantanda Biswal (a tribal leader) in Orissa, Mr S.C. Shukla in Madhya Pradesh (replacing Mr Motilal Vora).

Haryana also had a new Chief Minister, Mr Om Parkash Chautala, eldest son of Mr Devi Lal who became the Deputy Prime Minister. Some other changes in Cong (I) party leadership in the States were also planned in view of the fact that elections to several State Assemblies are imminent.

New Govt's Programme

The New Prime Minister, Mr V.P. Singh, outlined his and the National Front's programme priorities as follows:

1. Top priority to restore the dignity of the nation and of democratic institutions.

2. Immediate attention to the price situation since it has affected all sections of the people. "If the Government is a sword, it has to be wielded on behalf of the poor".

3. Special attention will be paid to safeguarding the interests of the minorities, the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.

4. Earnest efforts will be made to solve through a national consensus the Punjab and Kashmir problems. The confidence of the "opposition" (the Congress-I) would be sought. An effort to heal the wounds will be made.

5. The Government would strive

to bring about emotional and cultural integration.

6. To promote genuine decentralisation of power and a better deal for the youth, "who have come forward in a big way to bring about this change".

7. An amendment to the Official Secrets Act in order to allow for more transparency with regard to the working of the government. Similarly, the Lokpal Bill which had been dropped by the previous Government, would be introduced once again in order to deal with corruption in high places.

8. Autonomy for All India Radio and Doordarshan.

9. Continuation of the foreign policy on the basis of national consensus and non-alignment. Immediate concern will be to restore friendly relations with neighbours, specially Sri Lanka and Nepal, relations with whom had deteriorated in the recent past. He said India would maintain its solidarity with developing countries and friendliness towards all. SAARC had received "a rude shock" and it would be his Government's endeavour to bring it back to its path.

10. To find a solution of the Ranyanambhoomi-Babri Masjid issue, he would strive for an amicable settlement. "I am sanguine that some solution will come. Otherwise the courts are there."

11. Industrialisation will be given a strong basis.

12. To enshrine the right to information in the Constitution.

13. Reform of the electoral system to introduce State funding of elections.

Bofors Issue: Mr V.P. Singh declared that the law of the land would take its course in dealing with those involved in the Bofors gun deal scandal. Commenting on the nexus between corruption and politics, Mr V.P. Singh said as far as the Bofors issue was concerned, "I do not wish to personalise it." However, since his party had promised a value-based government, he would not prevent the law of the land from taking its course. "We are not going to be

vindictive or personalised in our response."

On the Ram Janambhoomi-Babri Masjid controversy, Mr V.P. Singh expressed himself against any forced solution, affirming that it would have to be settled amicably.

Attention to Muslims: The Muslims in India need to be convinced and reassured that their sentiments will not be hurt or ignored simply because they happen to be in a minority. Three major things have to be done to achieve this—the Muslim minority must have a taste of the fruits of national development; they must be made to feel that they are equal partners in a nation which believes in secularism and that whatever can be done to convince them and reassure them of this commitment must be and will be done.

Uphill Task on Economic Front:

Because of the nearly empty treasury, the dwindling financial reserves, the mounting deficit and high prices, severe crunch on balance of payments, the new Government faces an uphill task on the economic front. The balance of payment situation, which was under strain for some time has come under further stress in the past few months due to bunching of payments and other factors.

The foreign currency reserves as on November 17, 1989, were Rs 5,062 crore, marking a net decline of Rs 1,543 crore from the March-end level of Rs 6,604 crore. On November 18, 1988, the reserves stood at Rs 6,315 crore, which was Rs 972 crore less than the 1988 March-end level of Rs 7,287 crore. India has gone in for short-term commercial borrowing of one billion US dollars (about Rs 1,600 crore) from the international market. Repayments would start in 1990 and, as such, compulsions exist for the government to seek an IMF loan.

The growth in wholesale price index was 9.6 per cent on September 17, 1989, compared to the corresponding week in 1988. Another factor causing concern is the slag in industrial production.

The expenditure during the election year too has been high. The

budgetary deficit this year might be much higher than the budget estimates of Rs 7,337 crore.

The Reserve Bank of India's net credit to the Government, which is an index of the deficit financing by the Central Government, at Rs 6,953 crore during the current financial year (upto November 3) has shown a rise of Rs 1,550 crore over Rs 5,408 crore during the corresponding period last year.

The National Front, in its manifesto had laid stress on investment in social sectors like education, nutrition, health, drinking water, housing, sanitation and easy access to items of essential consumption, which would mean additional resources. The task spelt out is stupendous.

BJP Offers 'Critical' Support

The Bharatiya Janata Party on November 29 expressed its readiness to give general but "critical" support to the National Front Government. In a letter to the National Front, BJP President L.K. Advani stated that though the party had some reservations, "we have not made our support to you conditional to your agreeing to remove them." Though the BJP was aware that it would be supporting a minority government, it had agreed to support it from outside to end the Congress rule at the Centre.

The people no doubt had given a clear verdict against the Rajiv Government, but there has been no positive verdict in favour of any one party, or in favour of the five-party National Front.

Identifying the area of differences, a BJP spokesman said it was now left to the Front to win over the trust of the party "by removing misgivings that the Janata Dal regarded BJP as communal. According to BJP, the Janata Dal's public postures had thwarted the building up of an abiding relationship of trust and friendship between the two parties.

He wanted the National Front to take note of BJP's reservations—on Article 370, uniform civil code,

Human Rights Commission and Ram Janambhoomi-Babri Masjid issues—and hoped NF would exert to obviate them. The BJP wanted the Front Government to confine its governmental programme to issues on which the Front and the BJP agreed. The common features in their manifestos included autonomy to Door-darshan and AIR, right to information, right to work as a fundamental right, introduction of the Lok Pal bill to eliminate corruption, taking steps to provide debt relief and remunerative prices to farmers.

C.P.I. backs new Ministry: The C.P.I., while clarifying its stand, drew a distinction between a National Front government and a non-Congress-I government at the Centre, reiterating its resolve to support only the National Front. The CPI General Secretary said that his party would support the National Front from outside "based on secular and democratic policies". His party had made it quite clear that the Government at the Centre should not include representatives of communal parties like the BJP and the Muslim League. "This we are stating in view of the fact that the BJP leadership, in collusion with the Vishwa Hindu Parishad and RSS, openly resorted to aggressive communal propaganda to achieve its aims."

The BJP had referred to its own manifesto and not accepted any programme which contravened its manifesto and mentioned Article 370, the Ayodhya dispute and replacing the Minorities Commission with a human rights commission.

The C.P.I. hoped there would be no watering down the National Front programme in order to secure BJP's support for formation of the Government. The C.P.I. Secretary, asked to comment on the instructions by Mr Rajiv Gandhi to drop cases against Simranjit Singh Mann, pointed out that the Congress-I had followed the line which would make Mr Badal and Mr Barnala irrelevant and it had sided with the extremists. "But if the extremists say they are not for 'Khalistan', we shall welcome this." Regarding the withdrawal of cases, he asked

whether the cases against Mr Mann were fake. The C.P.I. did feel concerned about the BJP securing 82 Lok Sabha seats.

The four Left parties also informed President Venkataraman in writing about their support to the National Front government. The parties are the Communist Party of India, the Communist Party of India (Marxist), the RSP and the Forward Bloc.

Key to BJP's Success

As many people had visualised, the Ram temple "Shilanyas" and the linked Babri Masjid issue played a crucial role in determining the Lok Sabha poll outcome. Mr Rajiv Gandhi conceded that if the temple foundation laying function had been postponed by a month or so, the Congress (I) would not have lost so many votes as it actually did. BJP Vice-President Vijaya Raje Scindia said on November 29 that the "Shilanyas" in Ayodhya and the "Ramshila Pujan Abhiyan" played an important role in the BJP's success. She also admitted that the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) and the Vishwa Hindu Parishad (VHP) gave their support to the BJP.

BJP-Shiv Sena Alliance: The "Hindu card" played a role in constituencies where there was an alliance between the BJP and the Shiv Sena. In fact, an outstanding feature of the election results in Maharashtra was the emergence of a rightist force believing in conservatism and promoting revivalism. On earlier occasions, Maharashtra took no cognizance of a political party or an alliance that played the "Hindu card".

The Shiv Sena-BJP alliance not only did well in the Bombay metropolis and in urban industrial centres but also proved that it can attract the rural vote to a considerable extent.

In the 1984 Lok Sabha election, the BJP evoked poor response among voters and did not win a single seat from the State. This time it captured 10 seats because of its alliance with the Shiv Sena. This militant organisation has spread its network in villages and helped the BJP mobilise votes from rural areas. In several

constituencies where the Congress won, the runner-up was the Shiv Sena-BJP alliance candidate.

The Shetkari Sanghatan, led by Mr Sharad Joshi, had been assailing the alliance right from the beginning. Mr Joshi described the two parties as "saffron coloured vultures". On the eve of the election he had given a call not to vote for communalist parties. He extended support to the Congress and Communist candidates. But Mr Joshi's directive proved ineffective.

In this election, the Left parties like the PWP, the CPI, the CPM and progressive bodies of Scheduled Castes like the Bharatiya Republican Party (BRP) and the RPI (Khobragade group) appear to have been wiped out. A lone CPI candidate won from the Amravati constituency in Vidarbha.

Kashmiris to defend Art 370: Maulvi Iftikar Ansari, the Industries Minister in Jammu and Kashmir and a Congress leader, said every individual in the State would do his utmost to defend retention of Article 370 of the Constitution which grants special status to the State. In an apparent reference to the BJP's demand for abrogation of Article 370, he pointed out that the provision had been incorporated in the Indian Constitution by the Founding Fathers after careful thought.

According to him, Muslims in the country had voted overwhelmingly in favour of the BJP or the Janata Dal and only time will tell whether their trust will be betrayed by those who are committed to abolishing the Muslim personal law and abrogating Article 370. The claims of secularism of the Janata Dal would be put to real test when they run the Government with the support of those whose stand on major issues concerning the minorities is different.

Bid for National Govt

In order to provide a solution to the perplexing situation created by the inability of any political party to secure a majority, and by a "hung" Parliament, a proposal was made on November 29 by some influential

persons for establishing a national government comprising leaders of all parties. While several parties, notably the BJP, welcomed the proposal, the Congress (I) firmly rejected it. Consequently the move fizzled out.

Mr Atal Behari Vajpayee, who was elected leader of the BJP parliamentary party, brought the National Front proposal into the open.

It is reliably understood that the possibility of attempting a national government, rather than a party government, was first brought to the attention of the BJP 10 years ago when the Janata Party was in power.

An important aspect of a national government is the question of its leader. Normally, an individual of experience commanding national attention and considered non-partisan would be an ideal choice.

Sections of the Janata Dal would like a national government to come into being without the Congress in it. This vitiates the very concept of a national government which envisages a non-party, non-ideological government for a temporary period to tide over a crisis situation. A war-time England had produced such a government.

Govt of Reconciliation: Before the formation of the new government by the National Front, former Union Finance Minister C. Subramaniam put forward the idea of "a government of national reconciliation" to break the political deadlock. Political parties and leaders should rise above their personal and party interests to serve the national interest, Mr Subramaniam said.

He suggested the formation of a strong committee, comprising representatives of the various parties in the Government, which would reach collective decisions on all issues before these went to Parliament. This low-profile but decisive committee, which would represent "national wisdom", would function as a crisis-resolving body.

The people should be made to feel that anyone tampering with this arrangement was tampering with the national interest. The formation of the National Front government

supported by the BJP and the Left parties from outside, is a very delicate exercise as the two supporting parties have crucial roles without the responsibility of running the administration.

The major problem that would arise, with the National Front forming a government, would be that of inadequate representation from the southern States. Another problem could arise from the two-thirds majority that the Congress held in the Rajya Sabha. Mr Subramaniam felt that Parliament would be difficult to manage with a hostile Rajya Sabha if the Congress decided to be obstructive. An atmosphere of bitterness and animosity exists and this has worsened with the elections. In such an atmosphere democratic functioning is not easy.

Cases against Mann Withdrawn

In a last-minute move to appease Sikh extremists, Mr Rajiv Gandhi directed (before laying down the reins of office) the Union Home Ministry to withdraw the conspiracy case against Mr Simranjit Singh Mann who had been elected with the second highest majority, to the Lok Sabha from Punjab (Taran Taran seat). Mr Rajiv Gandhi mentioned that Mr Mann had sworn allegiance to the Constitution and had now become a Member of Parliament. Mr Rajiv Gandhi also asked the Home Ministry to withdraw cases against certain other persons involved in the Indira Gandhi murder conspiracy case. As the late Indira Gandhi's son, he held no ill-will or rancour against anybody. He claimed that he had "always striven to heal wounds". He felt that if there was any further step that could be taken to bring down the curtain on the unfortunate past, and to ring in the future, the step should be taken.

Extensive Akali Support: Mr Simranjit Singh Mann's party, which swept the Lok Sabha poll in Punjab, has secured extensive support as the main Akali Dal. The first to announce full backing was Capt Amarinder Singh of Patiala, a senior leader of the Akali Dal (Talwandi). He has also urged Mr Parkash Singh Badal to join

hands with Mr Mann in the interest of the Panth and of Punjab.

Punjab Voters' Verdict: As was widely expected, the Akalis' militant group dominated the poll in Punjab, despite the factions among the Sikhs and the frightening situation created by terrorist killings. The terrorist-infected State rejected the Congress (I), the BJP and also two dominant factions of the Akalis. Ten out of the 13 Lok Sabha seats were won by candidates supported directly or indirectly by the militants. On record, six seats were won by the Akali Dal (Mann), an Akali organisation supported by the militants, two by the Congress (I), three by independents, one by the Janata Dal and one by the Bahujan Samaj Party. The latter was supported by the militants along with the six UAD (M) and three independent candidates.

Among the significant results was the victory of Mr I.K. Gujral, the opposition consensus candidate put up by the Janata Dal against the Congress (I) in Jalandhar, and the defeat of Mr Devi Lal, Chief Minister of Haryana, in Ferozepur.

Another feature was an alarming polarisation of votes on communal lines. While the Sikh population voted for the militants' candidates, a large number of non-Sikh voters seem to have abstained, presumably out of fear. The terrorists had threatened to kill the voters. Hence the large margins of victory for militant-backed candidates even when they were under detention or were lesser known persons. The new Lok Sabha also has among its members the widow and father of Beant Singh, and a suspected terrorist, Mr Atinderpal Singh. Mr Mann, the detained President of the Akali Dal (Mann), won by the second highest margin in the country. Mr Mann polled 527,760 votes against 47,290 polled by his nearest Cong (I) rival, Mr Ajit Singh Mann, winning with a lead of 480,470 votes. The Congress (I) candidate and all other nine candidates lost their deposits.

Warning to Regional Parties

The results of the Lok Sabha poll signify a warning to several regi-

onal parties in office, such as the Asom Gana Parishad (AGP). Assam will hold parliamentary elections in a couple of months (when the electoral rolls are expected to be ready) and the poll for the State Assembly is expected in a year's time, possibly earlier, if the Chief Minister Mr Mahanta, who has been a prominent member of the opposition groups, decides to take advantage of the current anti-Congress wave.

The smaller units of the Janata Dal, the Congress (S), the BJP, the United Minorities Front (UMF) and the Left Front have to formulate their strategies in view of the mandate provided by the people in the rest of the country.

The rout of the Telugu Desam Party in Andhra Pradesh and that of the Janata Dal in Karnataka jolted the four-year-old AGP Government in Assam. The internal strife within the ruling parties in the two States took a heavy toll. Though the dissidence within the AGP is not as pronounced as in the Bommai Ministry of Karnataka, it is common knowledge that Chief Minister Prafulla Kumar Mahanta and the State Home Minister, Mr B.K. Phukan, are no longer on good terms. Certain middle-rung leaders had been indulging in dissident activities which may create disenchantment with the present State Government.

Both AGP and the TDP had emerged as powerful regional parties with chauvinist appeal in their respective areas. While the antics of Mr N.T. Rama Rao, like dismissing the entire Council of Ministers early in 1989 and the obsession with films, do not apply to the AGP leaders in Assam, there are certain other important factors which the AGP must grapple with. The implementation of the Assam accord, particularly the clause relating to the most vital issue of detecting and deporting illegal migrants, has not provided the desired results. The allegations of corruption, though not yet proved, have left some mud on the leadership and the dissidence too has created problems.

The State unit of the Congress is

also faction-ridden. The reports about the involvement of the Centre and the Congress (I) in the Bodo agitation further eroded the hold of the Congress (I) in the crucial Brahmaputra Valley.

Vote Percentage and Seats

As in previous elections, even apparently small variations in the voting percentages lead to a much larger shift in the number of seats. For instance, the Cong (I) surrendered as many as 65 seats to the Opposition by polling 4.13 per cent less votes in 228 constituencies than in the 1984 elections, according to computer analysis. The party contested from 215 of the 228 constituencies this time but secured only 104 seats—a success rate of 48.37 per cent.

It had an impressive 80.09 per cent success in the 1984 elections when it got 169 of the 211 seats for which it put up candidates. The party obtained 45.45 per cent of the 131 million votes this time against 49.58 per cent of 106 million in the previous elections. The Cong I also suffered in terms of majority wins, with only 68.27 per cent candidates polling more than 50 per cent votes this time compared to 80.47 per cent in the category in 1984.

The Telegu Desam was the worst sufferer in the poll as it yielded as many as 19 seats to the Congress, polling 1.39 per cent fewer votes as compared to the figure for 1984 (6.42 per cent). The party secured only one of the 22 seats it contested. It had recorded 87 per cent success in the previous elections when its candidates were returned from 20 of the 23 constituencies in the areas covered by the analysis.

The All-India Anna DMK was not affected by the fall in its votes as it emerged unscathed in both elections, sweeping all the 11 and nine seats for which it had candidates. It polled 3.33 per cent of the national vote in the 228 constituencies in 1984 and 2.69 per cent this time.

The BJP was the biggest beneficiary, its score of 5.05 per cent more

votes this time taking its representation from one seat to 38 seats in the 228 constituencies. The party polled 12.58 per cent of votes this time against 7.53 per cent in 1984. The party, which had fielded 103 candidates, had a success rate of 36.89 per cent.

The Janata Dal, which made its debut in the ninth general election achieved a high success rate of 52.05 per cent with 38 of its 73 nominees emerging victorious. More than 80 per cent of its successful candidates secured over half the votes each.

The CPI-M polled a marginally higher percentage of 0.85 but its seats tally went up by nine seats.

Loss of SC/ST Support

Among the many vote banks on which the Congress (I) relied in previous elections was the sizable section of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. The party lost about 50 per cent of its strength in reserved constituencies this time. It could retain only 45 of the total 115 seats reserved for Scheduled Castes and Tribes. In 1984 it had won 88 of the 120 SC/ST seats contested. From 73 per cent victories in these constituencies the success percentage fell to 37. The parties which gained at the cost of the Congress in these areas were mainly the Janata Dal and the BJP.

The Congress support among the Muslims also feel sharply and among the Sikhs too. Thus the minorities did not back the Congress (I) in the November elections.

Some other disheartening features from the Congress (I) standpoint were: Poor showing in the North where it won only 37 out of the 218 Lok Sabha seats in U.P., Haryana, Bihar, Punjab, J. & K., Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh and Delhi.

There are growing fears in the Congress rank and file about the fate of the party in the Assembly polls to be held in some States in March-April, 1990.

CPM Reigns Supreme in W. Bengal

To the CPM in West Bengal goes the credit of being the only party

that has retained power while elsewhere in the country the voters have opted for a change in the ruling set-up. The Left Front has maintained its hegemony in the State by virtually routing the Congress in the Lok Sabha election.

Significantly, the victories scored by the CPM include the Howrah seat from which the Congress candidate and Union Minister of State, Mr Priya Ranjan Dashmunshi, contested against a relatively unknown college teacher. The gain of the Jadavpur seat which the Congress had won in 1984 when Ms Mamta Banerjee had defeated the CPM candidate is a feather in the CPM's cap as its candidate, Ms Malini Bhattacharya, is a newcomer. Though both the CPM and the Congress have increased their votes, the margin of victory by individual CPM candidates has fallen compared to earlier occasions. A spokesman of the Left Front said the verdict proved that while in other States the ruling governments were considered corrupt and inefficient, such charges against the Government in West Bengal have not been accepted by the electorate.

An analysis of the poll pattern further showed that, true to tradition, the electorate in West Bengal has once again voted strictly according to political polarisation. The electorate did not vote on communal lines. This has been proved by the poor performance of the BJP in the State. The Bengali Muslims' vote seems to have been divided between the Congress and the Left Front according to political polarisation. Urdu-speaking Muslims are believed to have sided with the Left Front in view of the carnages in Bihar and Uttar Pradesh, but their number is much smaller than of Bengali Muslims.

BJP as Third Force: The BJP on Nov 29 warned the C.P.M. either to stop its "terror" campaign or face retaliation in West Bengal. The warning came in the wake of rising tension in Murshidabad district over the alleged murder of two BJP workers by the CPI-M activists.

The BJP has certainly performed creditably in West Bengal. By fielding candidates in 19 constituencies, the

party secured 5.30 lakh votes (1.71 per cent) out of the total 3.09 crore valid votes polled. The party made no mark at all in the earlier elections. It has now emerged as the third force, after the Left Front and the Congress, in a wide area in West Bengal.

Role of Congress (I) in New Set-Up

After submitting his resignation to the President, Mr Rajiv Gandhi outlined the role he as Leader of the Opposition and his party, the Congress (I) of which he continues to be the Chief, will play. While claiming several policy successes for the party, he assured constructive cooperation with the new Government and said his party would continue to promote secularism.

He exhorted the parliamentary party members not to get disheartened by the election reverses in the North. He thought that would make the party stronger. He claimed that the Congress (I) had made major gains. For instance, when he became the Prime Minister there were many States where secessionism was being propagated; today there is peace in these parts of India—Nagaland, Mizoram and Darjeeling.

In Punjab also, those who were resorting to the cult of the gun and demanding a separate State, had now come under the Indian umbrella and have fought elections within the framework of the Constitution. Was it not a happy occasion that during the election Punjab was the only State where there was no violence?

The people of South India deserved the party's gratitude for giving the Congress-I a chance to form State governments in Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka. He also thanked the people of Kerala, Tamil Nadu, North-east and J & K, for supporting the Congress-I. In the north there was a communal wave and "the Congress-I failed to gauge it".

The elections had made it clear that the Congress-I is the only national party and the only one which has secularism as its ideology. The

party would continue to fight the forces of communalism which remains the biggest challenge. However, he cautioned partymen that they would face a big challenge in the coming months.

2-lakh majority for Rajiv: Repolling was done in over 100 polling booths of the Amethi constituency because of the massive rigging, intimidation and booth capturing, confirmed by a special Election Commission team. Mr Rajiv Gandhi was declared elected, defeating his nearest Janata Dal rival, Mr Rajmohan Gandhi, by a margin of over two lakh votes: 401,449 valid votes were cast in the constituency out of which Mr Rajiv Gandhi secured 270,471. Mr Rajmohan Gandhi secured 69,099 votes.

Mr Rajiv Gandhi has been elected from the constituency for the third time. The last time, in 1985, he defeated Mrs Maneka Gandhi (Independent) by over 3 lakh votes.

N-E. Chief Ministers Pledge Support: Six Congress Chief Ministers of North-Eastern States, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur and Tripura, on Nov 30 reiterated their support to Mr Rajiv Gandhi and pledged to stand by him. The people in the North-East had voted the Congress back to power in all the 10 parliamentary constituencies that had been contested. So, the people in the region had not voted for change but for continued stability and peace.

The Chief Ministers offered "constructive support" to the NF Government but warned against any move "to destabilise" their duly-elected governments.

Many parts of the country witnessed large-scale violence during the poll, but the North-East was largely peaceful.

NTR's 7-Year "Soap Bubble"

The rejection of Mr N.T. Rama Rao and his Telegu Desam Party

(TDP) by the people of Andhra Pradesh, who not long ago worshipped him, is due to several factors.

1. The people were fed up and disappointed with NTR's poor performance as Chief Minister. They felt annoyed with his style of functioning, his tall promises and lack of fulfilment. The verdict is clearly and truly an "anti-NTR" vote. The people wanted a change.

2. Mr Rama Rao banked on glamour and goodwill among the rural poor, who were helped through welfare programmes, and did little to placate or win over other sections which were alienated for a variety of reasons. For instance, many government employees developed virtual hatred. The employees incensed them with his inaccessibility. His order to reduce the retirement age from 58 to 55 years was unwarranted. The issue was taken to court and the move was finally reversed but those who suffered the trauma of instant "sacking" never forgave the "blunder".

3. There were allegations of casteism. He did a lot to cultivate backward classes through his usual formula of concessions, but there were no gestures for upper caste groups that were alienated from him. His party was dubbed as Kamma Party opposed to Namma Party even in 1982.

4. He greatly displeased his partymen whom he ignored in decision making. He probably suspected another plot on the lines of a coup staged by Mr N. Bhaskara Rao in 1984 when he sacked 31 ministers en masse in February, 1989. He chose to assert his dominance by swearing in a totally new team. The sacked ministers became active dissidents.

5. Mr Rama Rao's handling of the Naxalite problem also rendered him vulnerable to criticism, especially in Telengana, which was a stronghold of the TDP. He left the people to fend for themselves.

6. The unemployed all over the State blamed Mr Rama Rao for their

plight. Repeated newspaper announcements about hundreds of thousands of jobs sent people rushing to government offices only to be confronted with explanations about lack of orders from the Government. This discontent was built up to the level of rage among many young people.

North-South Divide

Generally, the Congress captured the South while the Janata Dal and the BJP triumphed in the North. Maharashtra is on the dividing line between the North and the South. The poll results have been interpreted as a North-South divide which most party campaigners did not expect. In effect, these are contrary perceptions about the nation's politics. But one factor is common: the masses have rejected the government, in North, South and elsewhere, where they felt it had not done anything to improve their economic plight.

The relentless rise in prices and the fall in the real income have been a vital factor. Those who are deemed responsible have been punished. To them it was the State Government that must be held responsible, not the Reserve Bank or other financial institutions. Thus, barring West Bengal and its tiny neighbours, voters all over the country have punished whichever party has been in power locally.

Whether in the north or in the south, the voters opted overwhelmingly for one particular party or alliance. It was the Janata Dal in U.P., the BJP in MP and the Congress in Karnataka. In terms of alliances, it was the BJP-JD in Rajasthan and the AIADMK-Congress in Tamil Nadu. Voters everywhere sought the stability that a large majority is presumed to bring.

A notable difference between the north and the south could be the response to the Ram Janambhoomi-Babri Masjid controversy. The south mostly remained cool to the exhortations of fundamentalists on both sides.

Notes on Current International Affairs

Super-Power Summit

President Bush and Mr Gorbachov held their first summit-level talks on December 2 and 3 aboard ships near Malta. Although no formal announcement about the agenda and the decisions was made, it is understood that some positive gains were made. Both leaders expressed satisfaction over the discussions. The gains were:

1. The Cold War has now been formally ended. The past few months had already indicated that the Big-Power tensions were on the way out. The summit was a major step towards tearing down the remaining barriers that arose because of the Cold War.

2. The political earthquake in East Europe was discussed but the two leaders decided not to interfere with the evolutionary process of re-shaping Europe that is progressing.

3. The Soviet leader now expects a spectacular breakthrough in nuclear disarmament issues as a result of the informal seaborne summit.

4. Both leaders have become increasingly conscious of the urgency acquired by the question of German reunification—Eastern and Western parts forming one entity again. A cooperative U.S.-Soviet relationship is envisaged "to make the future brighter and safer".

NATO, WARSAW Pacts: Although the Super Powers have declared that the cold war is over, NATO leaders agreed on December 4 that the Western alliance and the WARSAW Pact were both vital for European stability. The end of East-West confrontation in Europe and the pace of change in the Soviet bloc have now raised doubts about the utility of the 16-nation NATO.

Dizzy Developments in E. Europe

Normally, Communist regimes dis-favour the demands for democracy in countries so far pursuing the totalitarian ideology, but the far-sighted, shrewd Gorbachov and his

advisers apparently regard the dizzy developments in East Europe as a boon. Most of the Kremlin leaders agree that the events have brought the interests of East and West more clearly into harmony than at any time since World War-II.

Soviet foreign policy analysts concede that the rapid changes pose serious risks for President Gorbachov, including a bitterness among Kremlin conservatives over the collapse of Soviet power. The opening of the Berlin Wall and the promise of greater democracy in East Germany have increased the West's stake in Mr Gorbachov's political survival. Those developments are also seen as diminishing the danger of instability or anti-Soviet sentiments in Eastern Europe and as bringing new credibility to the Soviet leader's programme at home.

Some Soviet analysts say that the splintering of the East bloc, which strikes many in the West as a stunning setback, is in fact a victory for Moscow since it clears the way for the end of the Cold War and allows the Soviet Union to focus money and attention on a more critical obsession: economic survival.

The analysts contend that it is better to have stable and relatively prosperous neighbours than restive and impoverished satellites, even if that means admitting the failure of the communist system.

Czechoslovakia goes democratic: The latest Communist country of the Eastern Bloc to welcome the winds of democracy is Czechoslovakia. Following a series of pro-democracy demonstrations, a senior Czechoslovak Communist Party official promised on November 29 that there would be free elections in the country, possibly within 12 months.

Huge rallies have been taking place in Prague in protest against the new Government, which is Communist-dominated, and to mount the campaign for its resignation. The demand for democracy may soon become irresistible.

Georgia to secede: The Soviet republic of Georgia has joined the three Soviet Baltic republics and Azerbaijan in enacting a clause in its constitution entitling it to secede from the Soviet Union. The decision was taken by Georgia's Supreme Soviet (parliament) after a debate on amendments to its constitution late in November.

Georgia has also decided to enforce only such Soviet laws as are not in contravention of Georgian laws. Georgia consequently will be entitled to possess lands within its territory, its natural wealth, water and forests, as well as "other natural resources". All the means of production will also be within its purview.

Georgia's Supreme Soviet took the decision despite the Soviet Union's Supreme Soviet having warned Latvia, Lithuania, Estonia and Azerbaijan of their constitutional acts not being in line with the Soviet constitution.

Bid to Topple Aquino

Yet another attempt was made (the sixth since she took office nearly four years ago) by rebels to overthrow President Corazon Aquino on December 1. The Philippines Government forces crushed the attempt, with US military assistance. The coup attempt witnessed heavy fighting in the capital, Manila. Government forces had started mopping up operations.

American aircraft gave support to the troops loyal to Mrs Aquino. The U.S. has two massive military installations in the Philippines—the Clark air force station and the naval base at Subic bay.

The coup attempt had come from elements of marine and ranger units under the command of Col Hanosan who led an unsuccessful rebellion two years back and escaped from prison in April, 1989.

Later reports indicated that sporadic firing continued in the streets. The rebels were adamant and refused to surrender.

India After Elections: Tough Tasks Before Government

For the National Front Government and its leader, Mr V.P. Singh, the immediate task is of political survival. The minority Government depends on the support of the BJP and some other parties which are not part of the ministry but have assured support from outside. The Janata Party's disastrous experience of 1977-79, the set-up was described by cynics as a "nine-day wonder", will serve as a constant reminder of the pitfalls ahead. Mr Rajiv Gandhi and his partymen believe the new regime is unlikely to last even a year; in fact, several leaders have already talking in terms of another general election after a few months rather than years.

The widespread violence, the massive poll rigging and other electoral malpractices, the blatant communalism and all-pervasive corruption are pointers to the urgency of measures to ensure not only fair and free elections but also a clean public life. This makes the elimination of anti-social and other anti-democratic forces, notably the secessionist trends, a matter of the highest priority.

Mr V.P. Singh, while outlining the new Government's programme on December 3, did well to stress the importance of ensuring a national consensus for solving the complex problems of Punjab and Kashmir, where danger lurks at almost every step. Obviously, the future of the National Front regime depends upon its performance and actual achievements, not on high-sounding pronouncements which were a hallmark of Mr Rajiv Gandhi's eventful term of office. Its achieve-

ments were few, its lapses and negative points many. No wonder the people were disappointed and disillusioned. The new Government has to win and retain the people's confidence.

This Special Feature provides an analytical study of the tasks ahead if the masses are to live with dignity and in a genuine democracy, not in an atmosphere of distrust and suspicion.

I. Introduction

The mills of God, says a well-known proverb, grind slowly but they grind exceedingly small. India before the elections was admittedly a terrible mess. There were allegations galore of corruption at many levels, including the highest. There was even an allegation that the country was being governed by an "inexperienced, tactless juvenile delinquent". That was an exaggeration.

But the fact remained that many blunders were committed, many lies were told, several cover-up attempts were made, the requisite cooperation among the ruling party and the other parties was totally lacking; the lack of trust and mutual confidence that are essential for a healthy, smoothly functioning democracy were missing.

The result was an atmosphere of deep suspicion, and widespread discontentment. The Prime Minister was stated to have a cynical contempt for the Constitution and other well-established institutions and practices; the rights of the people were being thrown to the winds.

Moreover, the previous administration was accused of (a) violation of the rights of the States guaranteed under the Constitution through misuse of the powers given under

various Articles, appointment of compliant, obedient Governors, unwarranted dismissal of democratically elected governments, erosion of the fundamental rights of the citizens by banning from elections parties that did not believe in socialism and secularism by making allegiance to these concepts necessary before any political party could be registered (Section 29 of the Representation of the People Act); interference in the course of justice by devious means and attempts to erode the freedom of the Press.

Besides the dynastic rule, there was also a trend towards one-party rule, started during Mrs Gandhi's regime and continued by her son, Mr Rajiv Gandhi. Inefficiency, maladministration and the tendency to announce grandiose projects which were completed years after the scheduled date, if at all, were other negative features of the regime.

Among the important tasks to be tackled by the new Government are: (a) rectification of the indefensible errors in various areas of activity; (b) correction of the glaring social and economic imbalances; (c) streamlining of the administration so as to eliminate the delays that breed corruption; (d) redress of the long-standing grievances of the minority communities and other weaker sections of society; (e) exclusion of all factors that threaten law and order and facilitate massacres of innocent people in backward States such as Bihar; (f) effective social reforms; (g) ending the skulduggery of politicians, and the selfishness and exploitation by industrialists.

II. Major Shake-up Unlikely

Of course there are many other disconcerting challenges that

also need to be firmly dealt with, but it is futile to expect a major revolution and a total transformation of the scene in the course of barely five years—the normal term of Parliament and the ministry constituted by the majority party leader. India is a vast country of continental dimensions and its problems are both complex and virtually endless. The deep-rooted social and economic challenges will take time to be effectively met. Miracles just do not happen in these arenas.

The progress has to be steady and slow, especially because of the sharply conflicting demands of the new regime's supporters and the numerous vested interests. Action against these elements, including the criminals in politics, the power brokers, the profiteers, the smugglers and the mafia gangs requires courage and a readiness to face the continuing threats and the implicit risks. Such courage can emanate only from a position of assured strength, both economic and political. A dependable majority in Parliament is obviously essential for this purpose.

The hoped for Government in the '90s, with a modern outlook, will probably desist from straying into areas where it does not belong and will, on the other hand, constantly look for opportunities to off-load to private agencies tasks which it had initially taken on itself. The gain will be greater self-reliance and self-confidence among the people, besides a more competently functioning administration.

Broadly speaking, modernizing the outlook, as required by the times, would mean getting rid of certain biases and unfortunate habits of thought which appear to have been forced on India by historical circumstances. Four major developments of this kind may be identified, the results to which they lead being the following: (i) the State overstretching itself; (ii) a general awe of religion and constant fear of injuring religious susceptibilities; (iii) not enough power and freedom of the people; and (iv) attachment to ideological slogans like "socialism" which impedes realism, clarity of thinking

and tolerance of dissenting viewpoints. What should matter is the merit, effectiveness, need and advisability—not the socialist ideology.

III. Promises of Clean Govt

The new Government should not disregard, out of prejudice, some valid points made by the former opposition parties in Parliament, in public and also in their election manifestos. This is especially important because Mr Rajiv Gandhi himself made specific commitments in this regard in January, 1985.

He promised a clean government and hence was named "Mr Clean". But the Government during the past five years has been far from clean. It has become badly tainted, with one blemish and allegation getting piled on another, the cumulative total baffling the common man beyond measure. In his mind the image of the Government became badly tarnished. All the disclosures and exposures of unethical, under-the-table dealings at the cost of the nation could not be wrong after all, the subtle counter propaganda on the State-owned mass media, Doordarshan and All India Radio, notwithstanding. New heights were scaled in respect of bribery, kick-backs and other forms of corruption. Hardly anything moves in government offices without palm greasing at various levels. This tragic impression about the Government has to be removed—and speedily too—if in the 1990s it is to become a truly people's government working constantly in the public interest and not in the interest of the select few, the well-ensconced favourites.

Linked with corruption is administrative efficiency and prompt disposal of government (that is, public) business. Where there is delay in attending to public grievances, and even in the normal disposal of business, there is bound to be corruption. The process of cleaning up the sorry mess must begin immediately and earnestly pursued; it should not be yet another instance of impressive promises being soon forgotten because of preoccupation with polit-

ics, the struggle for survival, foreign affairs, party squabbles, the toppling game and other extraneous activity that is anything but constructive work.

There is little doubt that the people were disappointed, disillusioned, disheartened and angry at the glaring failure to implement the assurances given by the Government itself from time to time. Positive programmes and actual accruing benefits would help brighten the gloomy faces and bring happiness in place of utter despair.

IV. Poverty, Confidence & Justice

Human dignity and pride in one's country stem from certain basic factors which are absent from life in this country. When millions are semi-naked and do not have even a shelter over their heads, not to speak of a house despite the multi-crore housing plans of the Government and when lakhs do not have regular means of livelihood, not to mention a good living wage, and when the affluent powerful sections continually exploit hapless men, women and children (there are still lakhs of bonded labourers in spite of the loudly-proclaimed laws banning such slavery, how can the dumb masses feel pride in their country?

Poverty continues to afflict the country to an amazing degree. About 40 per cent of the population live below the poverty line. It is not certain whether the objective of reducing poverty ratio to 5% by 2000 A.D. will be achieved. Official statistics are often misleading.

There are many other tasks also which await speedy correctives. Justice continues, by and large, to be a luxury of the rich; the poor have little hope that their petitions against injustice will be heard for years to come while the prosperous businessmen of Bombay and Calcutta, by engaging top category lawyers and through their influence, get a prompt hearing of their bail or other applications even on public holidays and at the Judges' residences too!

Ours is indeed a lopsided struc-

ture. Elimination of the oddities and heart-rending contrasts present tough challenges to any government that calls itself the people's own set-up and striving for their happiness—a far distant goal, rather an elusive dream.

The new Government must also eliminate all flatterers and sycophants from high quarters; this section of selfish people manages to distort the values and concepts which should ideally lie at the basis of all official policies. They feather their own nests all the time under various garbs. Then there are the endless series of social evils—child marriages, dowry, bride burning, the increasing number of slums and those who sleep on pavements, always exposed to the vagaries of the weather? What sort of life do these millions lead and does any government look after them apart from making tall promises at election time to provide them shelter and arrange for their livelihood?

V. Spectre of Violence

Then there is the spectre of violence haunting the innocent people of the country. In Punjab's northern districts there is the constant fear of being killed by terrorists; safety and security of both Hindus and Sikhs, men, women and children, are not assured. In some areas life has become a nightmare. In these districts it is the writ of the militants that runs, not that of the Government. This deplorable state of affairs must end. The sense of self-righteousness and the tendency of those in power to blame the opposition for the prevailing menace of terrorism should be abandoned.

The members of the opposition parties and others who pursue independent lines of thinking must not be regarded as unpatriotic people. The theory that anyone who is not actively with the Government is not a good citizen and is disloyal to the country is wholly erroneous. It would be best to promptly discard it. Otherwise, the vitally necessary cooperation between the Government and the people would never materialise.

The other form of violence,

besides the activities of the terrorists, is communal. Many people are killed and much loss to property caused during communal riots in the country. Such senseless disturbances are a sorry reflection on the Government of the day. The riots mark the utter failure of the police and the intelligence services. If these forces remain constantly on the alert, mischief mongers would not be able to build up large stockpiles of all sorts of weapons for use in riots. Moreover, riots and other disturbance of this type signify that certain groups of people have grievances and fears which have not been removed for a long time. It is mainly the Government's responsibility to ensure adequate protection and a fair deal to all sections of society so that grievances do not arise. If they arise, they should not remain unredressed. Why is it that the communal virus has assumed the form of a veritable epidemic that erupts here, there and everywhere? The Government's preventive or punitive action comes too late in the day and it is also too little to deter the real trouble makers. It is the new Government's duty to see that the instigators of communal trouble are adequately punished. At present they escape scot free.

There is violence also against the weaker sections of society by the all-powerful landlords, "goondas", mafia gang leaders who commit atrocities against the helpless sections of society, the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and also against women and children. If these weaker sections continue to be exploited and treated unfairly, even cruelly, all talk of a democratic government will be nothing short of a mockery.

VI. Centre & States

Centre-State relations have been a sore point for the past many years. The Government of India has been taking comfort in the report of the Sarkaria Commission which made the general observation that no basic change in the existing constitutional set-up is required. But most of the States, especially those governed by the opposition parties, have been complaining persistently that the interests of the constituent

units of the Indian Union are being frequently bypassed.

The Centre-State relations should, therefore, be tilted in favour of the States and no move that leads to further concentration of power at the Centre should be pursued without the consent of the affected people. In the post-election set-up a government at the Centre that fails to ensure justice to the States in all respects and does not entertain proposals that impinge on the powers of the States will not command country-wide support.

The main aim of the new Government should be to enable the people of all classes, urban and rural, educated and uneducated, the elite, the intelligentsia and others, regardless of their political affiliations, to live with dignity and pride. Laws which curb individual freedom and are basically restrictive in nature should be repealed, or at any rate liberalised so as to eliminate the obnoxious features.

The slogan "Mera Bharat Mahan", which was the constant refrain of All India and Doordarshan presentations sounded hollow and failed to arouse nationalist feelings because large sections of the Indian people continue to live in misery and utter destitution. Millions of them do not get even two square meals a day while a few hundred people at the top spend lakhs of rupees in five star hotels. All this presents a heart-breaking contrast that causes much discontent and reflects economic and social imbalances that urgently call for redress. The Constitution speaks of a socialist polity, but what the people see all around them is not socialism or justice or equality, but total absence of these ideals.

VII. Economic Tasks

The new Government has formidable economic challenges to meet. Most of them have been very much there for several years, while a few others are of recent origin, or at any rate, have assumed disconcerting proportions in the past few months. The remedial measures have become more urgent, especially because they directly affect the mas-

ses to whose happiness and welfare all political parties, including the Congress (I), are firmly committed. It is for the people's welfare and in their name that numerous projects—some well-planned and really beneficial, others ill-conceived, superficially impressive, wasteful and infructuous—were framed. Among these problems are the soaring prices and inflation (under pressure of which the masses are reeling), the mounting Government expenditure, the constantly losing public sector—the country's "white elephant".

Most economic experts agree that government and other expenditure must be reduced to check inflation, waste and also corruption. This implies what some feel is the basic issue: the Government must reduce its heavy load of responsibilities. The more the Government undertakes to do, the less the real benefit to the masses and the more perplexing the vicious circle of prices chasing production. Heavier taxation and other direct as well as indirect burdens on the people are the dismal sequel.

Moreover, the public sector must not be regarded as inviolate, like a pillar in the temple of socialism. It must always serve as an instrument for promoting national growth. The Government should be ready to trim it, or alter it, as and when any alternative is likely to be more advantageous on merits. The case of the public sector scooter unit in Lucknow which was offered to the Bajaj firm is an instance. But privatisation is not a creed; it is a means of reducing public ownership for practical reasons. Mrs Margaret Thatcher set an example of this alternative and it proved a great success.

VIII. Foreign Relations

For many years after Jawaharlal Nehru formulated a wholly viable and unexceptionable foreign policy for the country, every political party shared the prescribed guidelines on international issues. There was a distinct national consensus on the policy he enunciated regarding relations with other countries, including our neighbours. But during the past five years or so India has lost

the goodwill of almost all its next-door neighbours. This is a matter of deep concern. It is for the new Government to conduct an in-depth and objective study of the question, correct the distortions and remove the misunderstandings about India's intentions.

Surely, misconceptions have crept in and implementation of well-intentioned policies has become flawed. Why should things come to such a pass that Nepal, Sri Lanka and Pakistan all criticise India and why have they become hostile to this country even though we have made several gestures of cordiality and provided ample aid to the smaller nations and assisted them through various development and other projects? India is suspected of being an aggressor and a bully. It has become virtually isolated and has failed to ensure good neighbourly relations in spite of its professions of goodwill and friendship towards all and enmity towards none.

Obviously, a consensus on foreign and defence policies is urgently needed. But, as a result of the misguided policies and arrogant postures adopted by the top Central leaders, the gap between the Government and the people has become wide. No wonder there is mistrust instead of whole-hearted cooperation. The strategic and security environment needs to be carefully reassessed. The allegation that the nation's security has been gravely endangered and made vulnerable to outside pressures should be looked into dispassionately and not with coloured glasses that see evil in all opposition criticism. India's friendship with traditional friends of course needs to be promoted in every possible way, but this should be done with the full, unstinted cooperation of the people.

Most people agree that during Mr Rajiv Gandhi's regime much popular goodwill was lost and arbitrary decisions were taken, because of inexperience, undue haste, excessive enthusiasm to build a favourable image, unwarranted dependence on a small coterie of advisers and self-

centred, ivory-tower set who enjoyed the Prime Minister's confidence. These advisers did not maintain close touch with the people and tended to ignore the considered opinions of experts published in newspapers and journals of standing, as biased and habitually anti-government. Ad hoc decisions, which by their very nature do not conform to sound, established policies, often proved disastrous.

The tendency to import weapons from certain countries on extraneous considerations has done much harm to the country; this practice needs to be discarded. Several experts have repeatedly drawn attention to the immense waste involved in the purchase of military hardware that is either obsolete or remains unused for years together or gets rusted in the ordnance depots. The loss thus caused to the public exchequer is estimated at hundreds of crores. The audit reports and assessments made by other bodies have repeatedly drawn attention to such colossal waste, but in past years little attention has been paid to such adverse findings. If the new Government also continues this policy of neglecting the experts' findings, the immense loss to the exchequer will continue. The consequence would be yet more taxes on the poor silently suffering masses.

It has also been found that seldom are the persons or groups of army officials or bureaucrats who were responsible for placing orders for useless or superfluous military hardware costing colossal amounts, duly punished. The practice of filing most, if not all, audit reports (some remain unread and most of them are never followed up) has to be given up. Greater interest needs to be taken in such findings. National interest demands it.

It is also amazing that there is no carefully drawn up national security doctrine and not even a fully representative national defence council. The lacuna should be filled without delay. But the membership of such a body should not be confined to the ruling party, as is the current practice.

Fiscal Policies for Development

The controversy about the role of the State in the development of an under-developed economy is taking a new turn. In what way its fiscal policies can make a substantial contribution is featured in this paper.

Introduction

From Adam Smith down to J.M. Keynes, the perceptions about the functions of the government have radically changed. The nature and extent of responsibilities towards the society vary from country to country. The modern government no longer limits itself merely to the maintenance of law and order as in yesteryears. It has assumed the dynamic role of reconstruction and development of the economy during the post-Second World War period. The central government spending has grown, on an average, to 25 per cent of the gross national product in developing countries and 30 per cent in the industrialised countries. In some countries, the share exceeds 50 per cent of the GNP.

In the case of the Third World countries, the assumption of the new role by the State entails multi-dimensional and gigantic tasks to accomplish which calls for mobilisation of enormous resources, prudence in spending and political will to execute the plans and programmes.

This involves perestroika of the economy as well as of the social fabric. The scourge of poverty and unemployment needs to be eliminated; the economic disparities reduced and imbalances in income and wealth distribution levelled off. Well-managed public finance can prove a powerful instrument to meet the challenges and improve the quality of the government.

What should be the fiscal policy prescriptions in order to achieve the development goals? The answer to

this question as provided by the World Bank is a five-point model: Prudent budget policies; Reduction in revenue collection cost; Increase in efficiency and effectiveness of public spending; Autonomy and accountability of decentralised public entities; Poverty-oriented policies.

Let us elaborate each of these components:

(1) **Prudent budget:** A prudent budget policy does not mean one which aims at balanced budgets. Such a goal has become a thing of the past. Today, deficit budgeting is a pervasive feature though a de-stabilizing factor which gives rise to macro-economic imbalances. For economic growth and development, the need is to exercise financial and fiscal discipline. This implies that the budgetary deficit must not exceed the private surplus plus current account deficit (or foreign savings). In other words, an identity should be established between the two aggregates: public and private investments, on the one hand, and the public, private and foreign savings, on the other.

The criterion as to whether the public deficit is "prudent" is that its financing should be consistent with the government's other macro-economic objectives—external credit worthiness, growth of private investment and control of inflation.

It is gratifying to note that India's budgetary deficits have so far held good on this touchstone of prudence. With increased exports and higher savings, the economy would be able to finance higher deficits without sacrificing the macro-economic ends.

(2) **Increasing net revenue collection:** Given the tax system, maximisation of net revenue collection would depend on reducing the cost of raising revenue. The collection

cost does not include only administrative cost but also indirect cost arising from distortions in economic activity.

The second variable that affects the public revenue is the tax system itself. Instead of enhancing the tax rates or taxes, user charges may be levied raised on goods and services produced by the State-owned enterprises. The World Bank Development Report, 1988, notes that "there is significant scope for raising additional revenue from higher user charges on higher education, hospital care, electricity, water supply and urban transport. Where reliance on user charges is less, the pressure on State revenue is more.

The government of India has, in the past, earned scathing criticism by the opposition whenever it has resorted to hike the administered prices of goods to narrow down the deficits. It may be recalled that the Finance Commissions have not favoured such a method of augmenting the tax revenues.

It may be pointed out that, unlike taxes, the user charges are not unrequited imposts. They are the payments made in exchange for the specific publicly-provided goods. According to the WDR the user charges account for about one-third of all locally raised revenue in a sample of 25 cities in developing countries.

Progressive taxation, simplicity in tax design, high excise duty on selected luxury goods, value-added tax on manufactures, low and uniform import duty, if necessary, should form the main components of the tax reform package.

(3) **Effective spending:** Scarcity of resources facing the developing countries is a compulsive factor to ensure that the government spending is efficient and effective. In the scale of its priorities for allocation of resources, economic growth and

poverty alleviation should be given precedence. Each item of expenditure should be monitored and scrutinised not only for economic viability but also for technical, administrative and financial feasibility. Where the private sector has the capability or potential to meet the market demand or has the resources for investment, the government should avoid entering into competition with it. That is to say, the public sector should undertake enterprises only if absolutely necessary. Adoption of such an approach in India would mean a breakaway from its ideology which has an underpinning of socialism.

The recent policies of liberalisation and privatisation are straws in the wind indicative of the beginning of the end of the old regime. Former Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi has, time and again, denied this charge and reaffirmed that the old order would continue.

(4) **Fiscal decentralisation:** The analysis of revenue and expenditure of some countries has revealed that the revenues fall behind expenditure. Deficits are a common feature of the local government finances.

Autonomy and decentralisation in the matter of resource mobilisation and spending by government at the grassroot levels would facilitate linking up of cost and benefits. The process of decision making is quicker. This will be conducive to greater efficiency in administration, effective utilization of inputs and reduction in deficits.

(5) **Poverty alleviation:** The most formidable challenge in the developing countries is the elimination of poverty. Fiscal prudence sets the groundwork for growth—the precondition for defeating poverty in the long run.

In the ultimate analysis this implies reduction in the burden on the lean purse of the poor through appropriate fiscal measures. This can be achieved in two ways: Indirectly, by tax exemption and directly by poverty-oriented specific programmes. For example, exemption of income tax on low incomes or of

sales tax on wage goods. This would result in more purchasing power remaining with the poor. Directly, by spending on providing goods and services at low cost by subsidization of finished or semi-finished goods or raw materials or by augmenting supply of mass consumption goods. Low-cost primary education which can reach the really poor, investment in basic health clinics to provide free medical service, clearance or improvement of slums, provision of food subsidy or of low-cost houses. Promotion of labour-intensive programmes such as maintenance of rural roads or agricultural projects well-designed to reach the poor can generate increased employment to alleviate poverty.

Indian Fiscal Framework

Do the fiscal policies in India conform to the model discussed above? What reforms, if any, are needed?

The strategy adopted to achieve the goal of liquidation of poverty is balanced growth. The public sector is accorded top priority. The initial bias for it has however begun to erode. It is now being realised that the regime of regimentation, regulation and control, deemed as concomitant of planning, has hamstrung growth and must be reformed. The result is privatisation and liberalisation of the industrial and trade policies. Competition is encouraged. Thus, the process of adjustment has well begun. Will the change reduce the financial strain on the State or cut down the budgetary gap?

The government as well as the people feel much concerned now about the growing budgetary deficit. The task of squeezing it is not easy. It calls for bold decisions and strong political will. Efforts have been made in the election year budget to curtail the mounting non-plan expenditure (e.g., cut in defence spending, ban on kit-culture imports) but much more needs to be done to contain deficit-induced inflation which has a deep impact on the poor majority. It goes to the credit of the government for keeping down the rate of inflation to a single digit.

Notwithstanding the increase in the growth rate to 5.5 per cent per annum in the current five-year plan—far above the proverbial 'Hindu rate of growth' of 3.5 per cent—its benefits have not trickled down to the poor segment of the population in rural areas. A direct assault has, therefore, been made on poverty alleviation. Specific programmes for employment generation (e.g., Jawahar Rozgar Yojana) have been initiated in villages. The latest move as a part of the decentralisation process of planning is the effort to rejuvenate the panchayati raj institutions in the villages and to introduce Nagarpalika system in the urban areas. It is unfortunate that the government's efforts have ended in a fiasco with the rejection of the two Constitution Amendment Bills in the Rajya Sabha—Bills which sought to inscribe in the Constitution powers for the people to formulate and implement the plans for the areas within their jurisdiction. Suffice it to say that the battle against poverty has had little success. The end which the plans have targeted to achieve is still very distant. Does the fault lie with the defective fiscal policies or with the planning or implementation?

The WDR suggests that the local governments should have the power to raise resources. This would reduce the incidence of burden on the limited resources of the central government and thereby help in bridging the budgetary gap. The two Bills referred to above envisaged to do the same. But that is not to be now.

The seamy side of the poverty alleviation programme is that the politicians in power or not do not really 'will' to eliminate poverty. It is also noteworthy that doubts have been cast as to whether the programmes initiated to reduce poverty are only palliatives or real remedies of the malady. It is noticed that the beneficiaries of the 'aids' given are not lifted out of the mire of poverty and they remain poor as ever. If so, poverty alleviation should not be given out (or assumed) as poverty removal.

A Peep at Contemporary India

Comprising many ethnic groups, a burgeoning population which, unless checked in the next few years, may touch that of the world's most populous country—China—and displaying wide regional variations, India continues to be a land of myriad languages and dialects, several religious beliefs and sects, often in conflict with one another—at times behaving as sworn enemies—despite all the catchy slogans of national unity and integration.

The continental dimensions and the amazing cultural variations noticeable as one travels from one end of the country to another, are permanent features of this country. But there are some aspects of the people's life which have developed in recent years, particularly during the past decade, and which have brought disgrace. The consequences of highly disturbed minds during poll campaigns have badly tarnished the nation's image. These ugly, totally unbecoming characteristics are associated with contemporary India—that is, the country as we find it today.

The rich heritage of our composite culture, the moral values of which our ancestors were justifiably proud and the spiritualism that they consistently preached throughout the length and breadth of this vast land, are no longer the outstanding features they were. India today is a country in which the ethical and moral standards have deteriorated beyond measure. Political debate has descended to depths of vulgarity. If by a miracle, Mahatma Gandhi and Jawaharlal Nehru were to reappear on the dismal scene, they would not be able to recognise the country they so assiduously tried to build. Even the Founding Fathers of the Indian Republic would shake their heads in utter dismay.

Foremost among the heart-breaking features of contemporary India is the unbelievable disappear-

ance of religious tolerance, of the genuine spirit of secularism specifically mentioned in the preamble of the Constitution. Communal tensions and intense bitterness between the rival sects are not new, but during the year 1989, especially in the last quarter, the country seemed to be discarding the principles enshrined in the Constitution. Religious pluralism, manifest in the existence, side by side, of temples and mosques, gurdwaras and churches, was described until recently as "our wealth and proud possession".

Few believed that in the preparatory years for the 21st century blatant communalism, and prolonged strife over trivial religious issues would get intensified and dominate day-to-day life. These have pushed aside tolerance, mutual understanding and secularism as irrelevant, almost obsolete themes. Not even the worst and incorrigible cynics thought that communal riots would occur and recur in several States, resulting in a heavy loss of life and considerable damage to public property.

Those who suspect a Pakistani or other foreign hand behind the frequent communal clashes in modern India may have a point, but only a point. This is not a full and wholly adequate explanation for the aberrations. For the current tragic phenomenon we must look within ourselves, dispassionately examine the trends of behaviour of lakhs of our own people belonging to the two major communities. It is indeed an irony that most people in this country have got so used to communal conflagrations, especially in States such as U.P., Bihar and Gujarat, that they do not even raise their eyebrows when they read reports of such occurrences. Like the clouds during the rainy season and the hot, blistering sun in the summer months, these are being taken as a matter of course and as temporary outbursts of anger. Very little preventive action is taken, and

deterrent punishment is seldom given to the offenders and instigators. This is contemporary India!

Like communal killings and depredations, terrorist killings too do not arouse much interest these days. These, too, are being viewed as a part of life in a huge country having a virtually uncontrollable population and diverse opinions and modes of religious belief. This diversity, it is said, is bound to manifest itself every now and then in conflicts, sometimes in a rash of communal riots.

Strife between the country's two major communities was always condemned by the leaders, but perhaps never before were the clashes viewed with such amazing complacency as in contemporary India. Certain regions and the people residing there have become highly sensitive; even a minor provocation, sometimes innocuous and unintentional, sometimes purposely manoeuvred, is enough to start a conflagration which takes time to control. The fuel that feeds such fires seems to be seldom in short supply, though tolerance certainly is. This is contemporary India—a mere tinder-box.

India has the world's largest electorate and is the second largest democracy, comparable in size (and in no other respect) to the U.S.A. We often feel proud of having held eight general elections, but the elections held in November 1989, for the ninth Lok Sabha were in many respects a disgrace. They ruined the image of Indian democracy.

The violence, the scores of murders of political rivals and even candidates, the gunning down of a Minister, the shameful incidents in the former Prime Minister's own constituency (Amethi, in U.P.—the home State of all the Prime Ministers so far) even prompted the President of India to urge the Election Commission to conduct an investigation into the allegations made by eminent citi-

ens. The allegations included those of police terror in the area, of ballot papers having been stuffed into the boxes, of the voters having been terrorised and much else besides. It was indeed a national disgrace.

Are all these ugly incidents fore-runners of the shape of things to come in the 1990s and the subsequent years which were supposed to usher in a new era of peace, prosperity, a stronger democracy, efficient administration and, above all, a clean government? The number of murders committed during poll campaigns and on polling days tell their own tale. In 1980 a dozen lives were lost in electioneering; in 1984 the toll was less than 40, but in the 1989 Lok Sabha and Assembly polls all previous records were broken. Are a bloody democracy and political killings, coming on top of recriminations of the worst kind in and outside Parliament during the monsoon session to determine the shape of things to come? Is a tainted democracy worth having? What has happened to the electorate's "maturity" and the much talked of sense of discrimination between good and bad?

The fate of a country, especially one which boasts of equality of the sexes and of a progressive outlook in respect of the treatment accorded to all citizens, is generally determined by the status and treatment of its women. In this respect also, contemporary India has a far from praiseworthy record. Bride burning, currently a typically Indian phenomenon, cases of assaults on women and entirely hypocritical policies have become predominant in contemporary India. The Congress (I) President proclaimed from the house-tops that panchayats, municipal committees (and presumably in Parliament too) there would be 30 per cent reservation of seats for women who must be given an equitable share in every sphere of life. But the contrast between promise and performance has perhaps never been so glaring as in contemporary India. In the allotment of party tickets for the recent elections the record of all political parties has been disgraceful. The number of women candi-

dates actually put up for contesting elections has been about 5 per cent—a far cry from the much-publicised 30 per cent. About 48 per cent of the country's population will have only 5 per cent of the seats in Parliament. This is a blatantly unfair deal.

Is this an indication of the status to be accorded to women in Parliament and the country as a whole in the years to come? Is India to be a land of false promises and of hypocritical postures? No wonder, women are greatly disillusioned. Their faith in the Governing party (and also in the opposition parties which had assured a reasonable representation to women) has been badly shaken.

The resignation of Mrs Pupil Jayakar, a long-term friend of the Nehru family and Cultural Adviser to Mr Rajiv Gandhi, together with her accusations, could perhaps be taken as symbolic of unbiased women's reaction to the unsavoury happenings during the elections. She voiced her strong protest against the massive rigging and violence in the Amethi poll. She courageously warned that democracy in India could not survive with such violence.

A time comes, she added, when no one can sit quiet. It is the responsibility of every Indian to protect democracy. There need be no doubt that many other enlightened women like Mrs Pupil Jayakar must be feeling sorry for Indian democracy as it has lately been taking shape. What, pray, has become of all the assurances of according a high status to Indian women in future India?

The sex that was praised to the skies as goddesses has been insulted by the very people who are supposed to safeguard their interests. Countless people have begun to suspect that if the assurances held out to women (who constitute half the country's population) can be flouted in such manner, what hope is there for the smaller groups which are less influential and less important from the political viewpoint?

In the midst of gloomy forebodings there are some hopeful signs and certain institutions from which decisions upholding democracy and

fair play can always be expected. The most important such institution is the Supreme Court which does not fumble, nor does it let political or any other prejudice colour its verdicts. The recent judgement in the Ramshila (Ayodhya) case is an example. The court ruled that it could not ignore a fundamental right enshrined in the Constitution—total freedom to practise and preach one's religion. Perhaps in no previous general election did religion and communalism play a notable part. This time the Ram Janambhoomi and Babri Masjid issue and the allied temple foundation-stone laying function offended a large number of Muslim voters. The various political parties had to do some tight-rope walking on the issue. Will this be a factor to be politically exploited in a democracy? Isn't it a step backward at a time when only forward steps should be taken to facilitate a broader, democratic and tolerant outlook among all sections of the people?

Again, while the urgent need is of a stronger India which would be able to deal with foreign Powers, including Pakistan and Nepal, from a firm platform, the indications are that whichever party or combination of parties seizes the plums, the country would not be on a stable footing. In fact, instability is likely to be a more notable feature of the political set-up than moral, military and material strength. The functioning of the Government is likely to be even more chaotic because of the people, including the lawless elements and the mafias, who have played a part for one side or another (perhaps both).

The fall-out from an undemocratic and unfair poll, may introduce in contemporary India a feature that will encourage disunity and factionalism rather than unity of purpose. Therefore, the future government may not be able to pursue firmly its policies in dealing with undemocratic, illegal and reactionary forces. The frenzy with which power-hungry politicians have lately been going all out to defeat their rivals is, to say the least, ill-becoming. It augurs ill for Indian democracy. The instability in the political set-up may soon result in yet another electoral exercise.

Plight of Scheduled Castes and Tribes

Despite the specific provisions in the Constitution and the series of laws passed by Parliament to promote the welfare of the Scheduled Castes and Tribes, the plight of these people remains virtually the same. Who is to blame for this flaw? The proposition for discussion is: "The tragic plight of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes cannot be improved by merely passing laws."

Mr A Sir, the pitiable plight of the backward sections, especially the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, is a standing disgrace and a slur on Indian society. It is a blatant case of man-made injustice. Mahatma Gandhi pleaded ceaselessly for uplift of these people whom he preferred to call "Harijans". The Constitution clearly states (Article 46 of Directive Principles of State Policy) that the State "shall promote with special care the educational and economic interests of the weaker sections of the people, and in particular of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes, and shall protect them from social injustice and all forms of exploitation". Article 15 (4) of the Chapter on Fundamental Rights empowers the State to make special provision for the advancement of any socially and educationally backward class of citizens, especially the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. This provision makes it constitutional for the State to reserve seats for backward classes of citizens, Scheduled Castes and Tribes, in the public educational institutions, as well as to make other special provisions for their advancement. But the annual reports of the Union Ministry of Welfare and other sources amply prove that the exploitation of these backward classes (they together form more than half—about 52 per cent of the

total population) continues. The Ministry's latest report for 1988-89 states: "A bulk of the 10.48 crore Scheduled Caste population in the country continues to suffer not only from crippling economic disabilities but also from such repugnant practices as untouchability in some form or the other, in total violation of the ban imposed on it under Article 17 of the Constitution." The report also confirms that the "majority of bonded labourers and those engaged in such obnoxious professions as scavenging, flaying and tanning are Scheduled Castes who continue to live below the poverty line". In view of these authoritative findings, what doubt can there be that the legal provisions have not proved effective and the condition of the backward sections of our society has not registered any notable improvement? Even the seats reserved for them in public offices often remain vacant for one reason or another.

Mr B My predecessor, Mr A, has taken a pessimistic view of the situation and has laid stress on the negative side. I submit that there is a positive and more important side too. It is unfair to ignore the progress made by the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes during the past four decades. As a result of the reservations made for them in government offices and educational institutions we find thousands of young men and women belonging to these classes coming up in life and steadily shortening the socio-economic gap between them and the progressive sections of society. The complaint that many of the seats reserved for the backward classes remain vacant and are later de-reserved and filled by the appointment of qualified candidates belonging to the "upper castes" was valid until recently. But as a sequel to a special drive

launched under instructions of former Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi in May, 1989, much progress has been made in this regard. This is certainly a commendable achievement. The Union Minister for Personnel announced on Sept 14, 1989, that as many as 26,048 of the 35,647 vacancies identified in the Central ministries and departments, excluding the banks and insurance corporations, for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes had been filled during the three-month special drive that began on June 1. The ministry had carried out a thorough study of the problem for three recruitment years (1985-88) and had ordered a ban on de-reservation of the posts reserved for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes on June 10, 1988. According to official explanations, the cause of the problem was the power to de-reserve these SC/ST posts, which had since been withdrawn. The ministry had set up a monitoring mechanism to ensure that all future vacancies were duly filled up. In the present drive, as a special measure to avoid delays, police verification, wherever necessary, would be carried out during the probationary period. There would, however, be a small number of vacancies for highly technical posts which required special qualifications. The ministry was working on a proposal to fill these also. For the railways, a special drive was launched and orders or offers of appointments had been given to most of the SC/ST candidates out of a total of 11,298 vacancies. Similarly, the 3,085 posts identified in banks and insurance companies were being gradually filled. The Delhi Administration had reported that it had filled up 2,310 vacancies out of a total of 3,632 posts reserved for SC/ST candidates. A drive was also launched in the public enterprises

where 10,886 vacancies had to be filled up. Now there are Scheduled Caste Judges, Magistrates, college teachers, university lecturers, successful businessmen and industrialists. During the past four decades there has certainly been progress in promotion of the interests of these backward classes and I am sure the steady improvement will continue in the years to come because there is an increasing awareness of the problem. Every political party goes out of its way to ensure the welfare of these backward classes.

Mr C Apparently, Mr B has presented the official side of the situation. Of course the Government wants to take credit for whatever little has been done. But the lapses and failures have been so many and the successes so few that the overall picture remains largely unaffected. Speeches from the opposition benches in almost every session of Parliament disclose the tragic situation. There are several causes of the general indifference of the educated public towards the deplorable condition of the backward sections. Besides, there is the indifference of the bureaucracy and the lack of political will. I would also like to mention the distressing condition of the Scheduled Tribes who continue to suffer from several handicaps. It is officially conceded that despite the provisions contained in Articles 15 (4), 16 (4), 19 (5), 46, 164, 244, 275, 330, 332, 334, 335, 338, 339, 342 and the Fifth and Sixth Schedules of the Constitution for their welfare and protection, the tribals continue to suffer. Frequently, they are uprooted from forests to make way for various development projects and remain without proper rehabilitation. The direct and indirect exploitation of tribals by clever private traders also continues. The schemes launched for their welfare often fail to take off for lack of adequate public support. In Bihar, 88,504 cases for restoration of their land were instituted by tribals but only 43,291 were decided in their

favour. The situation in other States with tribal population is also disconcerting. By far the most pathetic plight is of those Scheduled Castes who are engaged in the scavenging profession. Notwithstanding protestations to the contrary by State governments, they remain untouchables and may have to live with this stigma for many more years, considering the tardy progress of schemes designed to improve their lot. The Government has been pursuing their liberation (making them give up carrying nightsoil and take to other less demeaning professions) but so far only 32 medium and small towns in the country have been made free of scavenging. It may take several more decades to remove this ugly blot. I may also focus attention on the low literacy among the Scheduled Castes. According to the 1981 census, the literacy percentage among these people is only 21.38 as against the all-India average of 41.30, excluding Scheduled Castes and Tribes who together account for more than 23 per cent of the country's population. The literacy rate among Scheduled Caste women in some regions is even less than two per cent, which is scandalous. Moreover, there is a large gap between the sanctioned grants for Scheduled Castes and Tribes and the actual amount spent for their welfare. In 1987-88 Rs 1463.87 crore was utilised on schemes launched for their welfare under the special component plans for different States and Union Territories. But the actual expenditure on the schemes has always been less than the amounts earmarked for the purpose. Apparently, this happens due to official apathy in implementation of welfare schemes.

Mr D I would like to submit that it is not the Government's fault that the plight of the SCs and STs remains rather unsatisfactory. Is it not the fault of the general public most of whom remain silent spectators whenever

atrocities are committed against the weaker sections of society? The force of public opinion is lacking. In the backward States, notably Bihar, there is large-scale exploitation of Scheduled Castes by landlords, mafias and others, at times with the connivance of the police. I may also point out that the legal protection supposed to have been provided to these oppressed people is not foolproof. It was only in 1989 that the loopholes in the laws designed to prevent atrocities against the SCs and STs were eliminated. The fact that the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989, attracted very little public attention is indicative of the indifference of the people generally and the politicians in particular. The new law specifies a whole new range of offences, provides for stiff sanctions and for establishment of special courts. The Act makes it mandatory for all States to take concrete steps to prevent atrocities and to "restore the feeling of security" among the scheduled groups. Why has such a necessary and practical measure been passed after nearly four decades after the enforcement of the Constitution? No major political party, no group of social activists, no human rights organisations, no superfine theorists of social equality, no agency of government (including the Law Commission of India), launched, in these four decades, any credible campaign in this regard—not even by the Scheduled Castes and Tribes legislators. This confirms the widespread indifference to the problem attention on which is focussed only at election time. The significant announcement made by Mr Rajiv Gandhi on November 21, 1989, a day before the polling that the Congress was determined to continue reservations in jobs and educational institutions for SCs and STs for another term after January, 1990, needs to be noted. Following the initiative taken by the late Mrs Gandhi the reservations had been extended by another 10 years. The extended period is due to end in January, 1990.

Round-up of National Affairs

MAJOR EVENTS IN BRIEF:

Unprecedented happenings—Erosion of Parliament's prestige—More disclosures on Bofors—Corruption charges galore—Terrorist activity—Grave situation in Kashmir—End of Sri Lanka adventure.

Dramatic Developments: More eventful and full of more tense moments than the preceding years since the 1984 elections, 1989 witnessed several unprecedented and dramatic happenings which caused much discomfiture to Mr Rajiv Gandhi and his colleagues in the Cabinet and the party. There were dramatic confrontations between the opposition and the Congress (I). The former made up for its inadequate strength by rhetoric and a series of sensational disclosures relating to the Bofors scandal and other blatant irregularities.

The entire political arena, notably the two Houses of Parliament, was enlivened by accusations and counter-accusations. The standard of debates in Parliament showed a deplorable decline because of the abusive language and the unparliamentary expressions used by the Prime Minister against the opposition ("traitors", "limpets", "anti-national people") and by the opposition against Mr Rajiv Gandhi ("liar", "inexperienced brat", "power-hungry and lover of pomp and show"), etc. There was very little output of Parliament owing to unpardonable waste of precious time. To add to the din and noise, there was repeated defiance of the Chair; in fact, for the first time in recent history the Speaker himself was virtually put in the dock, with allegations of blatantly favouring a firm of fodder machine manufacturers.

Corruption allegations Galore: The opposition had plenty of ammunition against the Government, thanks to the sensational disclosures on Bofors by "The Hindu" and certain other newspapers. The verdicts of the Comptroller and Auditor-General and leaked reports from Sweden created awkward situations for the Prime Minister. Corruption charges and demands for resignation of the Government filled the air much too often. He had taken a vow to root out the corruption canker, but he himself became a virtual victim of it. The dazzle and shine of Mr Gandhi's attractive promises early in 1985 wore off; the series of failures and set backs highlighted the Centre's ineptitude and poor management of national affairs.

With gross corruption was linked national security; hence millions of intelligent people had much cause for worry. The disillusionment of the masses was great because their lot had not improved. The elections were bitterly fought, with numerous violations of the codes of conduct prescribed by the Election Commission.

A blot on the administration was the spurt of communal riots in several States, mostly those ruled by the Congress. Terrorists in Punjab continued to indulge in reckless killings despite the security forces' comprehensive counter-measures and the elimination of several hard-core militants. In fact, the Punjab problem remained unsolved, with discontentment growing constantly. But the Centre did succeed in pacifying the activists in Mizoram, Nagaland and Cokhachand dominated areas where a district Council headed by Subhash Ghising is in control of local affairs.

A tragic indication of the nexus between politicians and lawless elements was the domination of criminals in certain regions, including Bihar and U.P., where the militants openly backed obliging politicians; in troubled Punjab the

militants used pressure tactics in favour of sympathetic candidates and in overawing others. Grave developments have been taking place in Kashmir Valley where a serious situation is developing.

The Centre's relations with the States remained strained, with opposition-ruled regions justifiably accusing the Centre of discrimination in respect of financial grants, development projects, etc. Step by step, the powers of the States were eroded and the process of concentration of authority at the Centre continued. The widespread suspicion of the Centre's intentions became manifest in the opposition to the 64th and the 65th Constitution Amendment Bills according to which the working of Panchayats and urban local bodies was sought to be streamlined. The people's mistrust grew with the blatant misuse of the State-owned mass media, Radio and TV, for projecting Mr Rajiv Gandhi as the saviour and for ruling party propaganda. For the first time the Congress manifesto, taking note of the people's angry reaction, promised to establish corporations for AIR and TV.

Foreign Relations: Through his frequent foreign jaunts Mr Rajiv Gandhi established friendly contacts with several countries, especially the Soviet Union, the East bloc, China and France. India's most widely travelled Prime Minister acquired a new dimension abroad. At the NAM summit in Belgrade, he managed to reduce tensions with Nepal, promoted relations with Pakistan and some other nations.

But with almost all next-door neighbours the old cordiality was lost and new tensions developed. The dispute over the Trade and Transit Treaty with Nepal caused strains, still unresolved, with Nepal. With Pakistan, despite personal contacts with Ms Benazir Bhutto, the hoped-for cordiality did not materialise and in

the latter half of the year the outstanding disputes over Kashmir, Siachen, treatment of minorities and secret assistance to Sikh terrorists in Punjab were revived. For this the blame however lay with Islamabad and the habitual anti-Indian elements there.

The unfortunate Sri Lanka adventure, which at last came to an end with the complete pull-out of IPKF from the stricken island republic by the year-end, cost India dearly in terms of both army personnel killed and national prestige. The Sri Lankans became hostile to India and most sections of Sinhalese accused us of aggression and atrocities against the citizens there. The Sri Lanka intervention was described by some people as "India's worst foreign affairs disaster".

Ties with China: The country's relations with China showed notable improvement after Mr Rajiv Gandhi's visit to Beijing and the talks with each other's official-level delegations in Delhi and Beijing alternately. The border dispute seemed to have been pushed under the carpet. There was no sign of China returning even an inch of Indian territory it had seized in 1962. The occasional Sino-Indian talks are conducted in a cordial atmosphere. There have been understandings on other matters, but no settlement is in sight on the basic issue of territory. Apparently, the status quo has been accepted as inevitable.

On the nuclear issue India's stand remained unchanged, despite the efforts of Pakistan, Nepal, Sri Lanka and of many other nations to lay the blame on India for the failure to ensure an accord on a nuclear free region. Militarily, India maintained its strength, reinforcing the equipment adequately even after the reduction of about Rs 200 crore in the defence budget.

Details of Notable Events

ELECTIONS FOR 9TH LOK SABHA

★ Announced about six weeks earlier than the expected date, the elections for the ninth Lok Sabha were held in the last week of November, along with the poll for five State Assemblies. These were as Mr Rajiv

Gandhi admitted, a direct sequel to the rejection of the 64th and the 65th Constitution Amendment Bills by the Rajya Sabha. He explained that his aim was to seek the verdict of the final arbiter—the electorate—on the issues involved. That was one reason why the Congress (I) poll slogan was "Power to the People".

The premature announcement took the disjointed opposition parties by surprise but they rose to the occasion and made a valiant effort to pool their limited resources and put up joint candidates to contest on a one-to-one basis against the ruling party so as to avoid the splitting of votes which generally benefits the ruling party.

While Mr Rajiv Gandhi vowed to fight communalism and the activated communal forces which were "trying to break the country's rich heritage and integrity", the opposition leaders rightly made corruption, especially the Bofors, the kick backs and other similar scandals, their principal poll planks.

Muslims' share in Lok Sabha: The Muslims constitute 11.36 per cent of the country's total population. About 85 per cent of their population is concentrated in U.P., West Bengal, Bihar, Maharashtra, Kerala, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Jammu and Kashmir and Assam (which will be going to the polls in January, 1990).

Percentage-wise, the Muslims should have 62 seats in the 545-seat Lok Sabha, according to some Muslim organisations and individuals who held their national political convention in Delhi. But the highest level the Muslim candidates reached was 48 seats in the Lok Sabha (8.8 per cent) in 1979.

The following has been the Muslim representation in the Lok Sabha from 1952 to 1984: 1952-36 seats (7.21 per cent); 1957-24 (4.74); 1962-32 (6.27); 1967-29 (5.68); 1972-27 (5.18); 1977-32 (6.03); 1979-48 (8.81); 1984-45 (8.25).

Since Indian society is a segmented one and the level of communal and caste polarisation has reached unprecedented heights, a Muslim

candidate put up even by a national party could not hope to win a seat without a substantial base of the votes of his own community.

An average Lok Sabha constituency represents about 1.5 million people and about 9,00,000 voters.

CONSTITUTION AMENDMENT BILLS

★ On October 13, during Parliament's resumed monsoon session, Mr Rajiv Gandhi's Government suffered an unprecedented defeat in the Rajya Sabha, failing to carry its two major Constitution amendment bills. This was the first occasion since 1952 when Constitution bills moved by the Government were defeated in the Upper House. These bills (the 64th and 65th amendment) were for streamlining the Panchayat Raj and reorienting the municipalities and corporations.

In 1969, Mrs Indira Gandhi's Privy Purse Abolition Bill was defeated by a fraction of a vote in the Rajya Sabha. The Congress (I) required a minimum of 162 in the effective voting strength of 241 for a two-thirds majority but it fell short by five votes.

The two Bills had earlier been passed by the Lok Sabha.

Centre to Strengthen Cooperatives: After streamlining the Panchayat system and reforming the local bodies in urban areas, the Central Government intends to strengthen the entire set-up of cooperative societies in the country. Mr Rajiv Gandhi stated that the administration had learnt a lot from the achievements and shortcomings of the cooperative sector in Maharashtra. He clarified that cooperatives would be streamlined only after the new Panchayati raj package and urban civic proposals were implemented.

There is a growing belief among the well-informed people that through the new amendments to the Constitution the Centre would acquire more powers which would reverse the process of decentralisation. But Mr Rajiv Gandhi asserted in his address to the Chief Ministers' Conference that through the move to grant more administrative and

financial powers to the urban local bodies the Government intended to give them the same Constitutional protection and sanctity as the Constitution assures to the Union Parliament and to the State Assemblies. "There would be no encroachment on the rights of the States".

COMMITMENTS TO SECULARISM

★ An amendment to the Representation of the People Act during the summer made it compulsory for political parties to commit themselves to true faith and allegiance to the principles of "socialism, secularism and democracy". The law does not ban the formation of religion-based organisations or non-socialist groups but only warns that they will not be recognised as political parties. This meant that parties which are blatantly communal would not be granted recognition by the Election Commission.

Until the end of 1984, political parties were not part of the Constitutional and legal provisions except for the purpose of allotment of symbols. Then came the Anti-defection Law in 1985, bringing political parties right into the legal framework, followed by Section 29A of the Representation of the People Act which requires all parties to affirm allegiance to socialism, secularism and democracy.

MORE LIGHT ON BOFORS SCANDAL

★ Yet another dimension was added to the scandal about the purchase of Bofors guns by the long-awaited report of the Comptroller and Auditor-General (CAG). The report was in effect an indictment of the Central Government for the purchase of 155 mm Howitzers. It contradicted the findings of the Joint Parliamentary Committee (JPC) which virtually whitewashed the Rs 1437-crore deal and defended the Government's decisions. The main points of the CAG report are:

1. There are lapses in technical and financial evaluation of the offers leading to the contract. The assessment of costs was faulty in several respects, and so was the technical

evaluation of the gun system and ammunition; 2. The Government failed to ensure that there was no middleman in the deal; 3. An intriguing aspect was the manner in which the Army Headquarters suddenly reversed its opinion and opted for the Bofors gun in February, 1986, after preferring the French made Soima gun on six occasions between December, 1982, and October, 1985.

4. Though the letter of intent was issued to Bofors on March 14, 1986, there was no follow-up action by the committee of its own recommendation to satisfy itself on all aspects of the purchase, licence production, credit and other arrangements. The Government ordered ammunition worth Rs 328.98 crore after diluting the "minimum parameters" specified by the Army HQ.

M.P.s' Exit: An unprecedented development, which followed the presentation of the CAG report, took place in the first week of Parliament's monsoon session. After four days of almost continuous uproar in both Houses, the 12 opposition parties announced their decision that all their 106 M.P.s would resign their seats in the Lok Sabha. Their members in the Rajya Sabha would stay put.

The opposition parties contended that the CAG report had exposed the misleading information given by the Prime Minister and his colleagues on the Howitzer deal. The report, the opposition contended, had clinched the issue. The *en masse* resignations of M.P.s miraculously united the opposition groups for the time being. Equally damaging disclosures were made by reports published in "The Hindu" of Madras through the efforts of Mr N. Ram. The Government brought pressure on the paper's proprietors to stop further disclosures.

COMMUNAL RIOTS

★ During the last quarter of 1989 there were communal clashes in many States following disputes over minor issues and provocations by certain groups, including the usual trouble-makers and others who exploit situations in highly sensitive areas. The worst communal carnage

was in Bihar—the notorious lawless State in which the writ of the Government and officialdom does not run and where the mafia gangs dominate the countryside as well as the mining areas. The worst affected was Bhagalpur and its rural areas where village houses were burnt and there was a heavy toll of life.

U.P. was badly affected by communal outbreaks and clashes were reported from several towns. The tensions over the Ram Janam Bhoomi-Babri Masjid disputes lasted several weeks. Fortunately, clashes were avoided through the restraint exercised by both parties and the decision of the Vishwa Hindu Parishad (VHP) to put off the construction of the Ram temple following the local authorities' timely step to ban further digging after the foundation stone had been laid.

The ban was imposed after the High Court verdict requiring maintenance of the status quo. The Union Home Minister stated that stern and adequate security measures had been taken and warned that most of the incidents in U.P. had been deliberately contrived to create a communal divide between Hindu and Muslims. Varanasi also reported communal incidents in which some persons lost their lives.

Although no mosque had been desecrated in the Ayodhya area, contrary reports spread in Pakistan, Saudi Arabia and Iran. There were incidents of violence against Hindus in Islamabad and some shops owned by Hindus were damaged. Hindu shrines were also damaged in the Sukkur area in Sind. Ms Benazir, in a belated move, ordered the protection of Hindu temples in Sind. The Pakistan Punjab Assembly unanimously adopted a resolution on November 10 condemning "extremist Hindus" for trying to build a temple near the Babri mosque.

Some Gujarat towns also witnessed communal trouble, though the scale of rioting was on a smaller scale than in Bihar.

GRAVE TURMOIL IN KASHMIR

★ Active secessionists, fundamen-

talists and militants have been indulging in several acts of violence and sabotage in the Kashmir Valley during the past few months. Life in the State seems to have been virtually paralysed as a result of the frequent bomb blasts and assassinations. The failure of the State Government to check the growing lawlessness is now widely conceded. The totally ineffective and non-functioning National Conference-Congress (I) coalition ministry has been helplessly watching the worsening scene, blaming the Centre and others for the explosive situation.

The immediate cause of the fresh wave of grave disturbances was the arrest of a leading secessionist leader Shabir Shah (who apparently commands a large following) and of some other militants. Cases of arson have become common in Srinagar and some nearby towns. It looks as if anti-national forces, trained and continuously supported by Pakistan through infiltrators are able to stir up trouble anywhere on any pretext. Disgruntled militant youth have joined their ranks. The result is that the writ of the State Government does not run in the Valley.

Chief Minister Farooq Abdullah relies on security and militant forces and holds out threats to the press, while the fact is that he does not command much influence on the people and his popularity has been greatly eroded. There have been crackdowns and shoot-outs in several parts of the Valley. The Jammu area too is described by many as a tinder-box that may explode at any time.

The Farooq regime, though hopelessly isolated and highly unpopular in the Valley, enjoys the Centre's support.

LADAKH AGITATION ENDS

★ Three-and-a-half-month old agitation of the Ladakh Buddhists Association for grant of Union Territory status to the Ladakh region following an agreement with the Government in Leh ended on October 30. The agreement was signed by

the Union Home Minister, Mr Buta Singh, the J & K. Agriculture Minister, Mr Mohammad Shafi, and the President of the Buddhists' organisation. The agreement envisages consideration of a District Hill Council for Ladakh. The Government promised to consider the proposal seriously. The J & K Government also promised that it would withdraw all but very serious cases against Buddhist activists and release them.

The agreement came two days after the Buddhists held a massive rally in which several thousand Buddhists from all parts of the Ladakh region participated to voice their determination to struggle till Union Territory status was granted to the region. The Buddhists had earlier refused to withdraw the agitation even after the Centre announced grant of Scheduled Tribe status to eight tribal communities of Ladakh on October 7. Ladakh has for years complained of neglect and of inadequate grants for development. Obviously, the discontent will not end unless regional autonomy is granted to Ladakh.

INCREASE IN TERRORISTS RANKS

★ Despite all the claims made by the Union Home Ministry and the Punjab Governor to the effect that terrorism is under check and that the menace may soon be eliminated, the tragic fact is that more and more youth joined the ranks of terrorists during 1989. The killing of innocent persons, policemen and rival terrorists continues and the security forces seem to be mostly helpless. The veteran hard-core militants apparently find it easy to recruit more youth to their ranks.

According to a recent survey, 62 per cent of the total number of persons killed in the State till now were Sikhs. The number of Sikhs killed in 1989 exceeded 525, including 70 women and some children. Since "Operation Bluestar" (1984), more than 4,000 innocents have been gunned down by terrorists in the State, while more than 1,200 terrorists have been eliminated through encounters and otherwise.

VIOLENT AGITATION FOR BODOLAND

★ During the past year the agitation for establishment of a new State of Bodoland in the Assam region, launched by the All-Bodo Students' Union (ABSU), became more violent with several cases of murder and disruption of normal life occurring every other day. After prolonged reluctance and imposition of several conditions, the agitators agreed to hold tripartite talks in Delhi on their demand for a separate State of Bodoland, the participants being the spokesmen of the Centre, the Assam Government and the ABSU. The talks, which were held on August 28 to find a political solution of the issue, were partially successful.

The ABSU agreed to suspend their agitation and stop violence, for the present, so as to create a congenial atmosphere for further negotiations. On its part, the Assam Government agreed to suspend all preventive measures in the affected areas of the State. A committee was constituted to go into all aspects of the Bodo agitation.

The Centre has made it clear that while it will give all necessary help for solution of the problem, the issue has to be solved primarily by the Assam Government. The Assam Chief Minister accused the Centre, especially the Union Minister of State for Home, of playing with fire.

But the gains of the tripartite talks were partially eroded the very next day when the ABSU leader declared that his Union stood firm on its demand for a separate state and that no other solution would be acceptable. The Centre has ruled out the splitting up of any existing State and carving out of new ones.

NAXALITES ADOPT NEW STRATEGY

★ The Naxalites have been quite active in Andhra Pradesh (their main centre) in the past year. But on finding that the methods of violence, murder, extortion and intimidation, which formed their initial creed, had not brought them the expected rewards, they changed their tactics.

They no longer lay stress on a class war. The police claim that they have crushed the movement is however unwarranted. The fact is that the Naxalites now concentrate on winning over the support and goodwill of villagers, and they seem to be succeeding. They have turned a new leaf and appear to be building a mass base while avoiding direct confrontation with the authorities.

The new strategy is in sharp contrast to the Naxalite movement's early history of violence and terrorism which had invited ruthless police repression and resulted in the deaths of several top leaders in encounters with the police. Several groups are operating in the State—the Tamil Nadu Organising Committee, the People's War Group, the Communist Party of India (M.-L.) led by Vinod Mishra, the People's Cultural Association, the Revolutionary Workers' Front and the Peasants and Agricultural Labourers' Front.

They are now carrying on a campaign against liquor, corruption, casteism and cultural degeneration. They have set up prohibition centres and their activities are restricted to persuasion within the framework of the law. The Naxalites emerged in Tamil Nadu only in 1970, though the movement had spread to Bihar, Andhra Pradesh and Kerala immediately after the violent peasant uprising in Naxalbari in 1967.

Naxalite Offensive in M.P.: The Naxalites also opted for a major offensive in Madhya Pradesh, especially aiming at the tribals. A secret conclave of Naxalites in the dense forests of Bastar gave a new dimension to the Naxalite problem in M.P. Extremist representatives and workers from Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, Orissa and M.P. passed resolutions in support of Jharkhand and Bodoland agitations.

The Naxalites have intensified their activities in the sprawling Bastar district. They are now armed with AK-47 Chinese assault rifles, apart from other weapons. The seriousness of the menace can be judged from the statement of the Congress-M.P. from Bastar that the Naxalites had made the life of tribals miserable. The

threat to amputate the hands of tribals had created terror.

INDIA'S FOREIGN RELATIONS

PAKISTAN INTERFERENCE IN INDIAN AFFAIRS

★ Despite the assurances of cordiality and friendship given by Ms Benazir Bhutto to Mr Rajiv Gandhi, the Pakistani authorities at various levels have been interfering in India's domestic affairs. The training of Sikh terrorists in Pakistani camps is well known. Ms Benazir promised to look into the matter but to no purpose. The terrorists operating in Punjab continue to get supplies of sophisticated weapons from across the border, thus defeating the efforts of the Indian security forces to eliminate the terrorist menace.

On November 11, India reacted strongly to Ms Bhutto's statement on the Ayodhya tangle and rejected the comment as "unwarranted interference in our internal affairs by outsiders". Her statement was deplored as a biased distortion of facts and betrayed total ignorance of the complexities of this delicate issue. Ms Bhutto described as "reprehensible the plan to construct a temple in Ayodhya. An Indian spokesman reminded the Pakistan authorities of the ethnic and sectarian violence and killings of Muslims in their own country. Ms Benazir was advised not to indulge in hypocritical platitudes about the treatment of minorities in India who enjoy full religious and other freedoms as citizens of India.

Earlier, New Delhi had lodged a strong protest against Pakistani Senate's anti-Indian, biased resolution, describing it as blatant interference in Indian affairs. The resolution made adverse comments on the condition of minorities in India. The resolution, which also referred to Kashmir and Siachen, was not in keeping with the letter and spirit of the Simla Agreement.

True, the Pakistani Senate is dominated by the opposition IJI and it was a ploy to bring pressure on Benazir, but it is learnt that even the PPP members had backed the resolu-

tion. There have been other cases of Pak indiscretion also. India has restrained herself since 1983 from commenting on the plight of Sindh minorities.

SIACHEN TALKS FRUITLESS

★ The hopes aroused by Mr Rajiv Gandhi and Ms Benazir Bhutto, after their talks on Indo-Pak issues, that the Siachen issue was about to be settled to mutual satisfaction have not been fulfilled. After the conclusion of the second round of talks between the Army authorities of India and Pakistan on the question of redeployment of forces in the Siachen glacier area on August 19 the deadlock persisted. A time-frame for withdrawal of forces, referred to in a communiqué, implied redeployment of forces in the area to reduce the chances of conflict, but it proved of no avail.

The Indian army is occupying territory which belongs to India, but Pakistan's disinclination to accept the realities became evident from the statement by the Pakistani Minister of State for Defence who on August 25 described the Indian presence on the Siachen Glacier as an "aggression by design and not by default". Such hard hitting observations have proved detrimental to the ongoing process of bilateral talks on the issue. The Pakistani Minister felt it was obligatory on the part of India to pull back its troops to the pre-December 1971 positions.

The prospects of a settlement receded further because Ms Benazir Bhutto's position is highly vulnerable in view of her narrow majority as shown in the no-confidence vote early in November. She cannot afford to make any conciliatory gesture towards India for fear of being accused of "betraying" Pakistani interests.

RAJIV'S PAK VISIT

★ Mr Rajiv Gandhi paid an official visit to Islamabad on July 18-19, the first by an Indian Prime Minister to Pakistan since 1960 when Mr Nehru went there to sign the Indus Waters Treaty. Mr Rajiv Gandhi went to Pakistan in December, 1988, to participate in the SAARC summit. During

his cordial talks with Ms Benazir Bhutto various aspects of Indo-Pak relations were discussed, but no concrete results were achieved.

The U.S. President has been urging both Mr Rajiv Gandhi and Ms Bhutto to normalise relations between the two countries. Mr Bush twice telephoned Mr Gandhi; among the issues he referred to was the nuclear dispute on which the two Prime Ministers could not reach any agreement.

The joint commission of the two countries, which met on July 19, decided to intensify cooperation in economic, medical and cultural fields and to relax travel facilities for the two peoples in each other's country. In the economic sphere, the two sides agreed to exchange data and documents related to development, exchange delegations of businessmen, cooperate in agriculture and work out avoidance of double taxation.

SOVIET UNION

RAJIV-GORBACHOV SUMMIT

★ India and the Soviet Union observed, after their talks at the Kremlin in mid-July, that their relations with China had improved. Mr Rajiv Gandhi stated that "we see progress in resolving the border issue". He referred to the first-ever meeting of the joint Sino-Indian Working Group on the border issue held in Beijing. Both sides are committed to ensuring absence of tension on the borders. The summit-level talks were held after Mr Gandhi flew in from Paris after attending the French Revolution bicentenary celebrations.

The Soviet Union welcomed the latest initiative of India and three other developing countries at Paris to resume the North-South dialogue to solve global economic and environmental problems. Mr Gorbachov assured Mr. Gandhi that "philosophically we are with you on the issue of the North-South dialogue". Their discussions covered international and bilateral issues.

SRI LANKA

INTENSE TENSIONS; IPKF PULL-OUT

★ Almost throughout 1989 there

were recurring tensions and point counter-point arguments between India and Sri Lanka on the issue of withdrawal of the entire IPKF. While India had affirmed its intention to withdraw the force as early as possible and as soon as its mission was completed, President Premadasa created a complex situation by suddenly and unilaterally fixing July 29 as the deadline by which the entire IPKF must quit Sri Lanka. Almost the entire population of the island republic supported the demand and had turned against the Indian force.

The Indian High Commissioner explained at the end of August that logistically it would take about seven months for the operation. The pull-out could be expedited if the necessary conditions were created in the north and east. It was important that the people in these areas felt safe before the IPKF withdrawal. After all, safety and security of the Tamils was one of the duties which India had undertaken under the July, 1987, accord with Sri Lanka. There were widespread fears of a large-scale slaughter if the IPKF left suddenly.

There were prolonged negotiations between spokesmen of the two countries. At last an agreement was reached on a time-frame for IPKF's withdrawal which has been a phased one. In fulfilment of the agreement, the Indian army withdrew completely by the end of 1989. There was a prolonged war of attrition between the IPKF and LTTE. Later, President Premadasa adopted a more realistic attitude after which an understanding was possible. The question of devolution of powers to the provincial councils was also resolved somehow.

India has paid a heavy price for the Sri Lanka adventure—nearly 1,000 IPKF officers and men killed in two years of a bush war; about 2000 guerrillas have perished in the clashes and hundreds of civilians also lost their lives. The expenditure incurred by India is variously estimated at Rs 50 to Rs 100 crore on military operations, besides the large amounts spent on food and other supplies sent by air and sea.

NEPAL

TRADE TREATY TENSIONS

★ Despite the Government of India's best efforts to resolve the differences over the Trade and Transit Treaty with Nepal, the deadlock continues. The Treaty expired in March, 1989, and India has made several efforts to reach an accord, while protesting against Nepal's import of arms from China in violation of the understanding. Early in October, Nepal needlessly brought up the bilateral issue before the U.N. The Nepal delegate charged (without any basis) that India had suddenly abrogated the treaty, thus causing the people of his country much economic hardship through the resultant fuel and other shortages. The abrogation also hit the general environment.

It was the first time that India and Nepal spokesmen had clashed in the U.N. in such a manner although Nepal had complained to the U.N. earlier also regarding this matter.

The Kathmandu representative utilised the occasion to stress the right of landlocked countries to free access to, and from, the sea as well as freedom of transit recognised by the International Sea Convention.

There is no doubt that Nepal's economic difficulties have increased since the non-renewal of the treaty (Nepal's gross domestic growth rate, which was 5 per cent last year, it is feared, may fall to 1.5 per cent). But Nepal itself is to blame for the plight of its people. The Kathmandu authorities had failed to respond favourably to India's repeated suggestion for resuming talks on the dispute on an equitable basis. The charge that the Trade Treaty had been ended abruptly is baseless. The Indian envoy deplored the attempt to divert responsibility for the Nepalese people's difficulties.

Nepal sought alternate arrangements for supplies (from Pakistan and China) but succeeded only partially. It has strengthened relations with China from where Nepal has been importing large quantities of various goods over the years.

Round-up of International Affairs

MAJOR EVENTS IN BRIEF

Year of Peace—Namibia now free State—New moves in Afghanistan—End of super-Power tensions—Soviet withdrawal from China border.

The year 1989, like the previous one, was a period of peace and amity in the international arena, the exceptions being the localised tensions and intermittent clashes between racial groups in a few unstable countries, but even those petered out after a time because none of the Super Powers was interested in backing any of the rivals. In fact, in many ways the past year marked an improvement over 1988; the Russians pulled out of Afghanistan completely by February 15, according to the Geneva Accords; the Vietnamese withdrew from Cambodia as per agreement, and the Indian Peace-Keeping Force (IPKF) pulled out by stages from Sri Lanka. The Iran-Iraq War ended and apart from occasional accusations by both sides, there was no flare-up on any war front in West Asia.

Lebanon, however, continued to be torn by armed conflicts and political rivalries, but even there relative calm prevailed towards the end of the year. There were no armed clashes in Angola either; besides, the initial hurdles in establishing peace in sorely troubled Namibia were crossed and the mineral-rich country went to the polls early in November, marking an end to several decades of South Africa's strict, cruel domination.

As expected, the voting was very heavy, millions of people turning out at the polling booths to cast their franchise—an altogether novel experience for the suppressed people of Namibia—one of the worst victims of White imperialism and exploitation. SWAPO, the organisation that had fought for Namibian freedom for many years, came out triumphant in the poll, though it could not get the expected majority. Thus at long last the country became an independent entity.

Afghanistan Tangle: In Afghanistan, especially around the border with Pakistan, there were prolonged clashes for some time in summer months between the Mujahideen (the rebels who were continuously armed by the USA and Pakistan) and the Afghan Government forces. The rebels failed in their objective of occupying Jalalabad and some other towns in Afghan territory. Kabul and its people suffered heavily as a result of the rocket attacks by the Mujahideen from their bases in Pakistan territory.

For months both the USA and Pakistan desperately tried to force a military solution, but ultimately they realised that a military victory over the Afghan forces would not be possible (the Kabul regime and its head, Dr Najibullah, received full armed and other support from the Soviet Union). The attackers climbed down from their high perch and agreed to try for a political solution of the complex problem of Afghanistan. Efforts were also made by the U.N. through its Secretary-General to promote a settlement. The Soviet Union seemed to be anxious to get out of the Afghan tangle and accepted the proposal to evolve a political settlement. Moscow even seemed to be willing to sacrifice its close and loyal ally Dr Najibullah, if necessary. Efforts were made to induct King Zahir Shah to handle the situation.

Super-Power Cordiality: The tensions between the Super Powers, the USA and the Soviet Union, virtually disappeared during the year; instead there were positive signs of all-round cooperation in resolving the outstanding international

conflicts and promoting peace in all the war-torn areas. Neither Power backed the warring factions anywhere.

In place of the feverish armament, nuclear and conventional, there were several proposals for arms reduction, cuts in defence budgets and diversion of relieved army personnel to constructive pursuits, especially in the Soviet Union.

Thousands of Soviet soldiers were withdrawn from the long China-Russia border in accordance with the agreement reached between Mr Gorbachov and the Chinese leaders at their Beijing summit in June, 1989. The massive ideological adversaries at last resolved to sink their differences and adopt friendship as their creed. This marked the start of a new era of peace and amity between the Communist giants. Sri Lanka presented an appalling scene with a spate of killings day after day and a ruined economy.

The Nicaragua front remained mostly calm, though the U.S. has not yet reconciled itself to the realities there and continues to back the rebels in the hope of restoring its domination over the conflict-prone Latin American regions.

The threat of an arms race receded following the recognition by the UN of space as the common heritage of mankind. Towards the end of the year there were hopeful signs of an early end to the evil of apartheid, with the new S. African President rejecting the concept of an "all-White State" and promising a fair deal to people of all races in a national government.

Details of Notable Events **SETTLEMENT LIKELY IN AFGHANISTAN**

* During the first half of 1989, soon after the withdrawal of Soviet forces on February 15, there were clashes, raids and border skirmishes between

the Afghan forces and the Mujahideen. There were heavy casualties on both sides, but because of their failure to capture Jalalabad or any Afghan town of importance, and also because of their internal strife, the rebels' attacks tapered off. Pakistan and also the U.S. now seem to have shifted their stand. While earlier they made a determined bid to reach a military solution and oust President Najibullah anyhow, in recent months they realised that a solution through arms would not be possible and therefore a political solution should be sought.

A notable development in October was the reported willingness of the U.N. Secretary-General to help find a solution of the deadlock created by the Mujahideens' hostile activity and Dr Najibullah's resolve not to quit office.

Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze and his Pakistan counterpart held consultations and evolved a settlement formula.

One proposal was to invite King Zahir Shah to return to Kabul and tackle the situation. The King expressed his willingness, but the frustrated Mujahideen would not have him. Both the Islamabad leadership and the former monarch have to contend with a major obstacle. The hardliners in the faction-ridden "Afghanistan interim government of the Mujahideen", led by its Prime Minister, Prof Durrab Rasool Sayyaf, have refused to consider utilising the services of Zahir Shah.

The advice given by the Pakistan Chief of Army Staff to the Afghan rebels to start direct talks with the ruling People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan (if President Najib steps down) was interesting. The latest reports indicate that the Russians would accept a solution that would bring peace even if Dr Najib has to go. A shift from the battle-field to diplomacy seems inevitable.

Early in November the UN General Assembly unanimously adopted a resolution calling upon the UN Secretary-General to promote an intra-Afghan dialogue for a political

settlement. The new element is the growing cooperation between Pakistan and the Soviet Union. The two countries agreed on the text of the resolution. The US readily supported it.

RUMBLINGS IN CHINA

★ The past year was unusually eventful in the Communist giant of the East—China. Since the students' revolt in the summer, there has been considerable repression of democratic elements in that country; there has also been a power tussle among the leaders resulting in a notable switch. Ultimately, China's paramount leader, Mr Deng Xiaoping, resigned from all posts and went into virtual retirement, though it was said he would still remain a guide and counsellor.

The President of China was made the first Vice-chairman of the powerful Military Affairs Commission, a post previously held by the purged General Secretary of the Communist Party, Mr Zhao Ziyang. The newly appointed party General Secretary, Mr Jiang Zemin, became the new Chairman of the Military Affairs Commission.

GORBACHOV FACES NEW CHALLENGES

★ Although in the first half of 1989 Mr Mikhail Gorbachov emerged on top as the Soviet President and the party General Secretary, and he also created a good impression abroad after establishing cordial relations with U.S. President George Bush, in the succeeding months he was confronted with unexpected opposition to his policies. There were economic and ethnic difficulties and the country was gripped by a series of crises. He was consequently compelled to slow down the implementation of his pet policies of Perestroika and Glasnost. In the international arena he made several proposals for cuts in arms arsenals, military forces and the budget. He helped to reduce tensions all round.

For the first time the Soviet Union decided to have democratic elections, tolerate a full-fledged opposition in the Parliament and

liberalise the Communist regime. Even so, the opponents and dissidents gained strength and the Kremlin leaders had to tackle the critics of the Communist regime. In part, it was a legacy of the past; the pent up grievances were finding free expression after long years of suppression.

Warning of Revolution: Mr Boris Yeltsin, the Soviet Union's maverick Communist politician, predicted in September, 1989, that President Mikhail Gorbachov had about six months to a year to achieve domestic progress or face revolution. Unless the President could show progress during that time, Mr Yeltsin said, "we're going to have some very difficult times—a revolution from below." It had already begun in the form of strikes which could spread and affect the entire country.

Secessionists' challenge: The new movement for secession of various Soviet Union areas from the Central set-up has been causing much concern to Mr Gorbachov who strongly deplored the trend among individual Soviet republics and threatened a tougher response to the ongoing ethnic dispute between Armenians and Azerbaijanis. He has ruled out redrawing of the administrative and territorial map of the country and a federal structure for the party. He further consolidated his position as the supreme leader by a major reshuffle in the CPSU Politburo.

Firmly opposing calls, mainly from Baltic republics, for federalism in the CPSU, he said this would mean an end to the party as it was founded by Lenin and would inflict irreparable damage to Perestroika and the entire cause of socialism. Ethnic relations in the Soviet Union are complex. Unresolved issues have emerged, errors and deformations that accumulated over decades have now made themselves felt and dormant ethnic conflicts have erupted.

HUNGARY ENDS COMMUNIST REGIME

★ The entire concept and propagation of Communism in Europe received a rude jolt on October 8 when Hungary, which has been a

strong critic of Moscow's domination over the Eastern Bloc, spurned hard-line Communism and adopted socialism instead. The Hungarian ruling party openly declared that "the country stands pledged to the Western type of democracy".

With the unilateral voting out of the Communist Party, an era ended and a new one has started in Hungary. The decision also marks the termination of the party State—a regime in which the party is everything, the individual and his basic rights are nothing. Over four decades of Marxism-Leninism have thus become an old, discredited story.

The decision of the Hungarian Communist Party to dissolve itself is without precedent; it is the first case of an extreme leftist party turning itself peacefully and rather dramatically into a full-fledged socialist democratic entity. Hungary's first free national elections on a multi-party basis will be held by June. A firm commitment has also been made by the reformers in respect of human rights and the international norms in this arena. In respect of democratic reforms, only Poland in the WARSAW group has come anywhere near the progress made by Hungary.

East German Government Quits:

East Germany's Communist-dominated government resigned on Nov 2 and called on Parliament to elect a new cabinet. The resignation follows massive demonstrations demanding political reform. East Germany's government, made up almost entirely of Communist Party members with a sprinkling of allied representatives, has traditionally put Communist policies into effect.

Later, the E. German ruling Politburo resigned in the most dramatic attempt yet by Communist leader Egon Krenz to gain control of a country convulsed by street protests and the exodus of tens of thousands. The Politburo is the country's most powerful decision-making body.

The outgoing Politburo members many of them in their sixties and older, had been closely associated with former hard-line leader Erich Honecker. Mr Krenz, who took over

as the Communist Party chief on October 18, also was a Honecker Protege. Mr Krenz, the new leader, is under pressure to clear the way for free, multi-party elections like those in Poland and planned for Hungary.

RICH NATIONS TO FIGHT TERRORISM

★ Following up their previous affirmation, the world's seven leading industrialised countries on July 15 came out strongly in support of the reforms in Poland and Hungary and offered the East Bloc nations an opportunity to develop balanced economic cooperation on a sound commercial basis. The leaders of these countries also condemned the brutal suppression of the democracy movement in China, reassured their commitment to freedom, democratic principles and human rights. They particularly condemned State-sponsored terrorism and pledged to bring terrorists to justice within the framework of international law.

They expressed their resolve to work for a global ban on chemical weapons, a reduction in conventional forces consistent with their security requirements, and a substantial cut in Soviet and American strategic nuclear arms.

LEFTIST REVIVAL IN EUROPE

★ An interesting development in the past year was the revival of leftist forces in parts of West Europe at a time when communism was suffering a setback in Russia, Poland, Hungary and East Germany. The elections to the European Parliament, held in June, resulted in several surprises which may in due course affect Europe's entire political set-up. First, there was the resurgence of the Left forces. Together with the Social Democrats and the environmentalists, the Communists will command a comfortable majority in the 518-member Euro-Parliament.

However, the total votes cast by the Leftist parties did not show a notable shift. The conservatives have done better than their Social Democratic opponents in the Netherlands,

West Germany and France. Most of the parties in power, whether of the left or right, have received a rebuff. This reflects a growing public disenchantment with them because of their failure to come to grips with the basic economic and social problems.

HISTORIC USSR-GERMANY PACT

★ Much against the wishes of the U.S.A., Britain and other members of the Western military alliance, West Germany signed a "historic" pact with the Soviet Union and a joint declaration confirming their commitment to peace, human rights, self-determination, non-intervention, free choice of political systems and overcoming the separation of Europe. The agreement is regarded as a political asset by Chancellor Kohl who was facing domestic challenges. The two countries signed 11 other accords covering economic and educational matters and establishment of a "hot line" between Bonn and Moscow to facilitate cooperation in the battle against drugs.

The joint declaration carried forward the relationship from the West German-Soviet Treaty of 1970 which formed the cornerstone of former Chancellor Willy Brandt's "ostpolitik" (policy towards the East Bloc). While assuring cooperation at all levels, the pact rejected the concept of military superiority and removal of "asymmetries" in weaponry and spoke of the need to dismantle all types of barriers in science, economics and technology.

U.S.-Soviet Accord: During the summer the U.S.A. and the Soviet Union signed an agreement not to use force against each other in case of an accidental military attack. The agreement comes into force from January 1, 1990. It envisages coordinated measures to prevent the armed forces of either side from entering the territory of the other by force of circumstances or due to unintentional actions of its personnel. It also seeks to avert the dangerous use of lasers or complication of the actions of the personnel and weapons in areas warranting special attention.

Dramatic Move at NATO Summit

Breaking his long silence over the arms reduction plans frequently proposed by Mr Gorbachov, U.S. President George Bush made an important offer to reduce troops in Europe by 20 per cent as part of the effort to start negotiations with Warsaw Pact countries. He thus made an attempt to match Soviet gestures. Mr Bush suggested at a NATO summit a four-point plan to the other 15 Allied leaders.

The four points in his package are: (1) A 20 per cent cut in U.S. combat forces stationed in Europe, (2) a manpower ceiling for both U.S. and Soviet troops in Europe of 275,000; (3) new ceilings on tanks, armoured troop carriers and artillery for NATO and the Warsaw Pact; (4) a reduction in attack and transport helicopters and land-based combat aircraft by both sides to 15 per cent below current NATO levels.

Warsaw Summit Accords: By way of a serious answer to President Bush's proposal regarding conventional arms reduction, the Soviet Union and its WARSAW Pact allies signed a series of agreements in the summer of 1989 outlining a new plan to promote European security, cut in armaments and thus promote East-West cooperation. Mr Bush had proposed reduction in U.S. and Soviet troops in Europe outside the Soviet territory to 275,000 soldiers each and also curtailments in weapons and combat aircraft.

Mr Gorbachov claimed that the WARSAW allies had taken new steps towards European security and rapprochement and an East-West dialogue. He expressed the hope that the new proposals would enable the two military alliances in Europe to rapidly and successfully complete negotiations for arms reduction. The WARSAW offer, according to him, would narrow the gap between the standpoints of the two blocs.

NAM'S BELGRADE SUMMIT

★ The 102-nation NAM summit held in Belgrade (Sept 4 to 7) made a balanced, sober and realistic analysis of the world situation and favoured

coordination instead of confrontation. In a joint declaration it urged the developed countries to assist the poor. Otherwise the consequential strains might undermine the current trends towards global peace and harmony. Unlike in the past, the summit's plenary sessions this time were devoid of controversial or contentious issues. The declaration covered political and economic issues as well as problems of human rights and environment.

The world political climate has improved, but the summit cautioned that the major military political alliances, the chief protagonists of the cold war, "are still present", though their cohesion and continuing relevance are being questioned.

The declaration called for the pursuit of complete disarmament, especially with regard to weapons of mass destruction, which is necessary for securing the very existence of the human race on the planet. The sombre contrast between enormous military expenditure and dire poverty underlines the importance of giving concrete shape to the link between disarmament and development.

The non-aligned nations supported the four nation Paris initiative for an international economic summit to ensure higher growth rates for all nations.

The summit adopted a lengthy resolution on southern Africa, including the situation in Namibia. The summit endorsed Mr Rajiv Gandhi's move for a "Planet Protection Fund" by asking the international community to set aside financial resources for environmental cooperation.

The summit reaffirmed the right of all people to self-determination, referred to the incongruity of millions of people in over 20 territories living on the eve of the 21st century under colonial domination. They asked the international community to join them in increasing, widening and tightening sanctions against South Africa to isolate the "abhorrent regime" and to eradicate the apartheid system. NAM

directed the new chairman, Yugoslavia, to undertake an initiative to settle the Afghan problem. Afghanistan was accorded Islamic status in the movement. NAM, however, is still full of contradictions.

C'WEALTH SUMMIT'S CALL

★ The 27th summit of Commonwealth heads of government (CHOGM) held at Kuala Lumpur (Oct 18-24) concluded with a call for greater flow of funds to developing countries and a renewed commitment by the richer nations to meet the U.N. target for official development assistance.

The final communique demanded a complete ban on nuclear testing and practical steps for convening an early international conference to make the Indian Ocean a zone of peace. Such a conference was "necessary in view of the continuing foreign military presence in the Indian Ocean area".

They condemned terrorism and pledged to take steps to combat it.

Emphasising the need for strengthening measures to check the growing menace of drug trafficking, the heads of government favoured a comprehensive political settlement to resolve the Cambodian problem and establishment of a broad-based government in Kabul, acceptable to all sections in the country.

On disarmament, the leaders urged all parties to agree on a convention on the prohibition of development, production, acquisition, stockpiling, transfer and use of chemical weapons. The summit highlighted with deep concern "the dangerous tensions arising from the unresolved problems of West Asia, especially the Palestinian issue".

Economic Issues: CHOGM noted with concern that the problems of indebtedness, adverse terms of trade, protectionism and poverty continued to confront developing countries. The leaders emphasised the need to ensure a balance between industrial and developing countries.

The deliberations on South

Africa generated considerable heat and controversy with the British Prime Minister, Mrs Thatcher, pitted against other Commonwealth leaders over the former issuing a parallel statement on South Africa criticising the new financial sanctions imposed on the racist regime.

Planet Protection Plan: Mr Rajiv Gandhi's proposal for a Planet Protection Fund (PPF) on environment was adopted by the summit. The proposal formed part of the Langkawi declaration on environment after Mrs Thatcher bowed to virtually 48 to one support of the Fund proposal. The Planet protection Fund was put forward by Mr Gandhi at the Non-aligned summit in Belgrade in September. A sub-committee with India as one of the members will consider the details of the fund, which envisages a contribution of \$ 18 billion by the participating countries under the U.N. auspices.

They listed the main environmental problems facing the world as the 'Greenhouse effect' that could induce floods, droughts and rising sea level and the depletion of the Ozone layer, acid rain, marine pollution, land degradation and extinction of numerous animal and plant species.

Hawke Plan for S. Africa: The summit virtually gave six months notice to the South African Government to start withdrawal of the apartheid policy. The Kuala Lumpur statement on the issue, was described as the strongest ever Commonwealth document with the largest measure of unanimity.

The committee of Commonwealth Foreign Ministers was asked to meet after six months and review the promised reforms by the new South African President, Mr F.W. de Klerk. The leaders adopted the five-point Hawke Plan, which called upon all relevant banks and financial institutions to impose tougher conditions on South Africa on day-to-day trade financing. They asked the South African Government to remove military from townships, provide freedom of assembly, suspend detention without trial, release Nelson

Mandela and other political prisoners and lift the ban on the African National Congress (ANC) and Pan Africanist Congress.

SUPER POWER SUMMIT SOON

★ Further proof of the current detente and of the trend to resolve, step by step, the differences between the Super Powers was provided by half a dozen agreements signed by the U.S. and Soviet Foreign Ministers on September 24. The two Powers also cleared a major road block to a long-range nuclear weapons treaty. Another notable development was the decision to hold a Super Power summit.

The two dignitaries who held discussions in a cordial atmosphere were Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze and U.S. Secretary of State James A. Baker. The summit between the U.S. President, Mr George Bush, and the Soviet President, Mr Mikhail Gorbachov, would be held in spring or early summer, 1990. Mr Shevardnadze also announced a key concession from Moscow to move ahead towards a long-range weapons agreement despite its objections to the US Strategic Defence Initiative (S.D.I.) space-based anti-missile programme.

The two Powers reached agreement on a chemical weapons accord and several other points such as exchange of data on chemical weapons by the end of the year and visits by inspectors of the other side to stockpiles and plants. In a second phase, there would be more intensive on-site inspections of the submitted data.

Other accords: An umbrella agreement reached in principle was that there should be verification of missile plants and information exchanged even before a treaty to slash long-range nuclear weapons is completed.

They also agreed on advanced notification to the other side of exercises with long-range bombers and other strategic weapons; a ceiling on launchers carrying mobile IBMs at any one base; cooperating to enhance the power of the international

Court of Justice to settle disputes.

VIETNAM FORCES QUIT CAMBODIA

★ Vietnam began its promised final troop withdrawal from Cambodia on September 21 after 11 years of fighting guerillas there. The pullout of all 26,000 troops was completed on September 26. But the Cambodian guerillas fighting to topple the Hanoi-backed government contended that Vietnam was making the troop movement a ploy and actually hiding and disguising its troops.

Ho Chi Minh city sources in Vietnam refused to rule out fighting another war in the southeast Asian neighbour. A spokesman of the Ministry of Defence claimed that Vietnam's major achievement during the war was not strategic but involved saving the Cambodian people from genocide. Facing the poorly equipped Cambodian army is a resistance coalition of about 45,000 men. Cambodian forces felt confident that they would be able to defend the country against the resistance coalition led politically by Prince Norodom Sihanouk and militarily by the radical Communist group, the Khmer Rouge.

Vietnam invaded Cambodia in December 1978, ending the bloody rule of the Khmer Rouge, and Vietnamese and Cambodian Government forces have battled against guerillas' coalition comprising troops loyal to Prince Sihanouk and the Khmer Rouge. China, which fought a brief border war with Vietnam in 1979, is the coalition's main military supporter.

Earlier, the international conference held in Paris for several weeks failed to evolve a solution of the Cambodian tangle, even after the controversial Prince Norodom Sihanouk (who is backed by China) had announced his intention not to lead any government there after the Vietnamese withdrawal.

PAKISTAN: POLITICAL TUSSLES GALORE

★ The first 12 months of democratic

rule in Pakistan under the Prime Ministership of Ms Benazir Bhutto (she was sworn in on December 2, 1988, and is Pakistan's first woman Prime Minister—in fact the first woman to lead an Islamic nation) have been a period of internal troubles. Though she survived the no-confidence motion sponsored in the National Assembly by the strong opposition, she has had many problems to face. Her Pakistan People's Party (PPP) commands a narrow majority in the legislature even after the merger of the Mohajir Qaumi Movement (MQM) of Sind; hence her position is highly vulnerable. After surviving the formidable challenge posed by her principal rival, Mr Nawaz Sharif, Punjab Chief Minister, she decided to enlarge her cabinet in order to make it broad-based and more representative of various groups.

In fact, soon after assumption of office Benazir had to face difficulties on political and other counts, suffering major setbacks. The first was the politically motivated dissolution of the Baluchistan Assembly by the Governor on the Chief Minister's advice. The second, caused by the results of the 20 by-elections (13 to the National Assembly and seven to the Assembly) was more significant since it indicated that the Islamic Iamhooori Ittehad (ITI) which is in power in Punjab, would continue to pose a challenge to her.

While Benazir continues to command control of Sind, Mr Nawaz Sharif has Punjab which contains 60 per cent of the country's population as his political estate. He and his party accuse her of following a policy of appeasement towards New Delhi.

Pro-Autonomy Demand: Benazir Bhutto is facing another challenge—the demand for autonomy voiced by Baluchistan and Punjab which claim that the Constitution of Pakistan provides for grant of such autonomy. The demand has been gathering momentum. On October 7 the Baluchistan Assembly unanimously passed a resolution calling for more powers to the provinces and retention of only four subjects—defence, foreign affairs, currency and

communications—by the federal Government. The Punjab Government is going ahead with measures that do not conform to the federal laws.

Ms Bhutto however continues to enjoy the support of the army, without which she might not have managed to survive. Pakistan's Army Chief, Gen Mirza Aslam Beg, cautioned his countrymen that a campaign was under way to destabilise the country and vowed that the military would protect the newly revived democracy.

Visit to China: Benazir Bhutto paid a "successful" official visit to Beijing where she held wide-ranging talks with top Chinese leaders. The two countries agreed to further develop their relations in the fields of economy, trade, border problems and tourism. Pakistan has a close relationship with China which has apparently reverted to its pre-1962 stand that Kashmir is a bilateral issue to be settled by India and Pakistan. China has assured continuous military cooperation and is expected to supply F-17 aircraft besides long-range missiles of strong power.

CHINA STRENGTHENS TIES WITH PAK

★ China and Pakistan have been close friends—in fact Pakistan has been receiving generous supplies of military hardware and considerable other aid from Beijing. Their relations were further strengthened following the visit of China's Prime Minister, Mr Li Peng, in the middle of November, 1989. Comprehensive agreements on trade, economic and military assistance were signed during his three-day visit—the first to Pakistan by the new Chinese Prime Minister; it was his first official trip abroad. The last Chinese Prime Minister to visit Pakistan was Mr Zhao Ziang in 1987.

Pakistan has squadrons equipped by the Chinese modied MIG-19s and MIG-21s. Improved versions of these aircraft were inducted in the Pak Air Force early in November. Besides, China has supplied Pakistan its versions of Soviet tanks for the army. According to shrewd observers, China's most outstanding gesture

of friendship to Pakistan was the construction of the Karakoram highway linking the two countries.

CIVIL WAR IN SRI LANKA

★ During 1989 Sri Lanka, especially its central and south regions, witnessed intense internal strife, first with the JVP indulging in massacres of innocent Sinhalese, especially those associated in any way with President Premadasa's Government, and then a new Vigilante group (believed to be policemen in disguise) killing scores of JVP militants with unprecedented ruthlessness. Sri Lanka's streets and secluded spots were found littered with dead bodies some of which had been half burnt or dismembered.

New Row with India: On Nov 9 the Sri Lankan Government started another diplomatic row with India by virtually accusing New Delhi of illegally arming Tamil groups in the island's north and east. The Sri Lanka Defence Secretary alleged that an Indian Air Force plane had unloaded several crates at the China Bay Military Base near the eastern Trincomalee town on October 27 and transported them in trucks to certain centres.

The North-east Provincial Council in Sri Lanka headed by the Eelam People's Revolutionary Organisation (EPRLF) charged that on November 6 a pre-dawn attack by the LTTE on Voluntary Force camps in Amparai area was accomplished with the "active connivance" of the Sri Lankan army's special Task Force.

In a statement released by EPRLF, Mr Perumal charged the island government with providing base facilities in Sinhala-speaking areas, giving LTTE a "safe haven". He assumed that the Sri Lankan Government was manipulating anti-democratic forces among Tamil youths to wipe out the Tamils.

At the SAARC Foreign Ministers' session in Islamabad early in November the Sri Lankan spokesman announced that his Government would not hold any SAARC summit as long as the IPKF did not pull out from island completely. He even expressed doubts about India's intentions.

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ECONOMY CAPSULE

National Scene

STATE OF THE ECONOMY

* The national economy during this calendar year has been buoyant. The foodgrain output in 1988-89 has scaled another peak touching 172 million ton-mark. It is about 24 per cent above the production in 1987-88 and nearly 13 per cent higher than the last record production. It is forecast that the current year, 1989-90, will cross this mark, thanks to the good monsoon. In a mid-year review of the Indian economy, Dr Malcolm Adiseshiah has forecast 4 per cent growth rate for agriculture and a 7.5 per cent for foodgrains, at an estimated output of 185 million ton, in 1989-90.

The industrial sector has recorded 8.8 per cent growth rate in 1988-89 and will register a higher growth rate of 9-9.5 per cent in 1989-90. This is higher than the trend rate of five per cent per annum during the long spell of 36 years, 1950-85. The average annual growth in the current plan period stands at 8.2 per cent which is higher than 6.4 per cent during the sixth five-year plan. Industrial sickness continues growing unabated and the public sector has little to show in terms of efficiency.

The balance of payment situation continues to be a cause for concern, notwithstanding the spurt in exports of 21.3 per cent. The imports increased much more, 26.6 per cent. According to Dr Adiseshiah's review, exports during 1989-90 could be Rs 25,000 crore and imports Rs 34,000 crore with the trade deficit at Rs 9,000 crore compared to Rs 10,000 crore in 1988-89. Even if it is taken as some improvement, the external front remains a pressure point as is evident from the mounting debt. The Reserve Bank of India notes that the current account gap in 1988-89 will be very wide both in absolute terms and as a

proportion of the gross domestic product (currently it is 2.2 per cent). The foreign exchange reserves have declined, reaching a low of \$ 2750 million by end-August, 1989, and would cover hardly 1.5 months' imports.

The budgetary deficit has more than doubled the plan target of Rs 14,000 crore during the seventh plan period. It may shoot up to Rs 30,000 crore or more. Apprehensions are that it has high inflationary potential and may push the prices sky-high. Inflation has increased at an average annual rate from 6.5 per cent in 1985-86 to 9 per cent in 1989-90. It is fast heading towards the double-digit level.

As a result of the foreign trade and the whopping deficits in the budgets, the liabilities of the government have doubled in just four years from Rs 113,441 crore at end-March 1985 to Rs 228,241 crore at end-March 1989. The debt servicing ratio has risen from 15 to 30 per cent during the second half of the eighties.

The average annual growth rate is above the five per cent target envisaged in the seventh plan. The United Nations estimate of growth rate for 1988-89 is 8 per cent while the government economists put it at 10 per cent and the RBI at 9 per cent. Despite the variation in the estimates of the growth rate it is generally agreed that the economy has registered perceptible improvement. The eighth plan postulates a growth rate of at least six per cent a year.

At the same time it also remains a fact—a painful fact, at that—that the increased economic activity in agriculture and industry has failed to make a dent on the problem of mass poverty. In 1988, 40 per cent of the population, that is over 320 million men, women and children were groaning under poverty. The most disturbing situation is in central and eastern regions of India, where

poverty ratio ranges between 40 to 50 per cent with a disturbing degree of stagnation or regression among the very poor.

INFLATION CHANGES QUALITATIVE

* The official claim that the inflationary rates in 1988-89 are significantly lower than in most of the previous years seems hollow when the wholesale price index number is disaggregated into the three main commodity group indices. The five per cent increase in prices in the last financial year conceals more than what it reveals.

The food articles—cereals, pulses and fruit—which constitute the bulk of the consumption basket of the poor, accounted for 64 per cent of the WPI for the period April 1988 to January 21, 1989. The food articles registered 10 per cent inflation rate which is the highest since 1984-85. Under the food articles group, rice posted a rise of 11.66 per cent, wheat of 10.12 per cent and pulses 31 per cent.

The manufactured articles experienced a moderate increase of only 7.28 per cent; mineral 3.43 per cent and fuel 4.5 per cent.

The brunt of the inflationary prices has been borne mainly by the poor and not the rich. It is therefore a matter of great concern for the government which is committed to liquidate poverty. The anti-poverty measures have not given the needed relief to the poor.

CHANGING GDP PATTERN

* The decade of 1980s is marked by structural changes in the economy and higher growth path. This is evident from the changes in the gross domestic product (GDP) since seventies. The share of the primary sector of the Indian economy has declined

during the 1970s and 1980s while that of the manufacturing sector has increased. The tertiary sector has also lost the momentum in favour of the secondary sector. The current decade may well prove the watershed for an era of prosperity.

The changes in the composition of the products reflects a shift in favour of the elite-oriented goods rather than the mass consumption ones. That is, more of TV sets, autos, electrical gadgetry etc was produced.

INDUSTRIES GOING SICK

★ India has grown industrially. The progress is however marred by the lurking threat of sickness. More than two lakh industrial units are on the sick list with an outstanding bank credit of Rs 7,000 crore. Nearly 29,000 units are added to this category annually or about 90 units every working day

During the six and a half years from end-December 1980 to end-June 1987, the industrial sick units multiplied more than six times from 24,550 to 159,938 units. Their outstanding bank credit more than trebled from Rs 1,827 crore to Rs 5,738 crore.

Ninety nine per cent of the total number of sick units in 1987 were in the small-scale sector and only one per cent in the large- and medium-scale sector. They owed 27 per cent and 73 per cent of the credit to the banks. Of the total number of sick units 88 per cent are non-viable, only 8 per cent are potentially viable and 4 per cent fall under doubtful viability. These are a dead weight on the state exchequer and an impediment to the growth of the economy.

Industrial sickness is concentrated in Maharashtra and West Bengal, the industrially advanced States.

Industrial sickness is due to internal (financial or non-financial) factors and some external causes.

Short of closure of sick units, the government has evolved a remedial package to rehabilitate them to a healthy state. Its ad hoc policies are

not enough. What is needed is time-bound long-term policy formulation after the diagnosis of industrial sickness and faithful implementation of the policy.

RURAL BANK CREDIT

★ There has been an explosion of rural branch banking: an increase of 1500 per cent between 1969 and 1986. It has resulted in a significant change in rural credit not only in quantitative but also in qualitative terms. The bank loans advanced to cultivators have increased from less than one per cent in 1951 to 29 per cent in 1981. The loans by money lenders have consequently plummeted to 16 per cent from 70 per cent before the bank nationalisation.

To make a breakthrough in the rural economy, the banks have to provide routinely not only credit but also formulate a credit plan for the area and the needs of the people so as to ensure timely delivery of credit resources. Institutional loans should be productivity- and market-linked, their utilization made more effective and repayment automatic. Politicisation of lending and recovery of loans should be curbed. The banks must make sure that the loans reach the needy borrower and are not intercepted by the rich nor frittered away in frivolous pursuits.

The Agricultural Credit Review Committee, set up by the Reserve Bank of India, has strongly criticised the politicisation of the credit system in India. It has pointed out that a large number of beneficiaries of rural credit have been identified not by the banks or even by the government agencies but by the functionaries of political parties. The loan applications have not been scrutinised adequately, if at all. The committee has "condemned the practice of loan melas", and writing off of cooperative loans by the State governments as election strategies". The government interference (in determining interest rates etc) is flagged by the committee.

UNION BUDGET, 1989-90

★ The Central government budget for 1989-90 has some unique features: Reduction in the overall

budgetary deficit (from Rs 7,940 crore in 1988-89 (RE) to Rs 7,337 in 1989-90) by transferring Rs 2,300 crore to the revenue account from the oil pool reserves; Cut in defence expenditure by (just) Rs 200 crore; Levy of a surcharge of 8 per cent on an annual income of above Rs 50,000 from 1990-91; New employment scheme—Jawahar Rozgar Yojana—with an allocation of Rs 500 crore (later raised to Rs 2100 crore as Centre's share and Rs 525 crore of States'). The JRY is to replace the two schemes National Rural Employment Programme and the Rural Labour Employment Guarantee Programme; the capital account showed a deficit instead of a surplus as in previous years; Kit-culture consumerism is discouraged, by taxation.

The tax system continues to be regressive as ever. Great reliance is placed on excise duties for raising additional tax revenues.

Despite the resource crunch, the Central plan outlay has been stepped up by 20 per cent over the 1988-89 plan allocation.

RURAL UNEMPLOYMENT

★ With the bulk of the rural population below the poverty-line, the problem of unemployment assumes great seriousness. At the same time, it admits of no easy solution because of its complexities and magnitude.

The rural population is growing unabated and so is the labour force seeking employment. The landless agricultural labourers seeking jobs are also on the increase, thanks to the land tenure system, the new farm technology and the socio-economic changes.

During the last two decades, constant efforts have been made to meet the challenge. Recently, the government has merged the two wage employment schemes, RLEGP and NREP, into Jawahar Rozgar Yojana. It is intended to cater to the rural areas. It is a centrally-sponsored programme for providing employment to at least one member from each household for 100 days in a year.

A similar scheme, Nehru Rozgar

Yojana, has been introduced for the urban unemployed.

The Opposition has characterised these programmes as political gimmicks in this election year. Has the merger made any significant difference in terms of employment promotion? This is a big question mark.

EIGHTH PLAN: APPROACH PAPER

★ The approach paper to the Eighth five-year plan 1990-95, has been approved by the Planning Commission, but the National Development Council has still to put its seal of approval. It is uncertain whether it will be accepted, as it is; or modified by the new government likely to be formed in December 1989. However, the salient points of the draft document may be recapitulated here.

To achieve the targeted growth rate of "at least six per cent per annum", an outlay of Rs 345,000-355,000 crore is envisaged for the public sector. The aggregate investment (inclusive of the private sector) is postulated at Rs 645,000 crore at 1989-90 prices. The question of resource mobilisation to match the proposed outlay is left untouched.

The poverty ratio will be brought down to 18-20 per cent which is 10 percentage points further down the level expected to be reached by the end of the seventh plan. The employment growth rate will be three per cent per annum.

The growth rate of agriculture at four per cent and of industry around 9 per cent is stipulated.

Indications are that the country will have a very tough task to implement the plan. It will not be a cakewalk.

International Scenario

THIRD WORLD PROBLEMS

★ The meeting of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD) listed five major

problems to focus on: economic growth, hunger, population growth, education and poverty. They are all inter-related and hence must be tackled simultaneously. The World Bank President Barber Conable pleaded with the member governments to make generous contributions to the general capital fund for aid to the poor on a sustained basis and also to protect the interests of the poor while making adjustments.

The managing director of the IMF emphasised that the enduring solution to the whopping \$ 1.3 trillion debt of the Third World countries lies in forging economic growth and development. He denied that the IMF policies were in any way responsible for the slow-down in growth in the case of these countries. The advances made by the rich are, in the last analysis, at the cost of the poverty-ridden debtor countries. The most surprising and frustrating thing is that the poor have to take loans to pay off the past debts. The 15-member body headed by the former West Germany Chancellor Helmut Schmidt notes in its report that the developing countries have suffered from a reverse flow of funds while investment in these countries by the industrial nations had fallen to \$ 10 billion in 1986 from \$ 20 billion in 1982. The reverse transfer of resources exceeds the aid flows from the rich. Is this the way of poverty alleviation to which the affluent nations swear? Will not the "debt overhang" persist and de-stabilise the Third World economy?

WORLD FOOD SITUATION

★ The food scenario in the developing countries, including India, Pakistan, Bangladesh and China is likely to slide into a crisis, predicts the Washington-based Worldwatch Institute. The trends of foodgrain production in the past show that the unprecedented growth in output during 1950-84 suffered a slow-down in 1985 and 1986 which deepened into a drought in India in 1987 and in North America and China in 1988. The grain harvests in the world are nearly ten per cent less

because of the failure of monsoon; under- or non-utilization of large tracts of land in the US; large-scale land erosion in countries like the US, USSR and India; industrialisation, urbanisation etc have reduced the availability of land for crops; stagnancy in land yield; depressed farm prices; low yield; decline in purchasing power due to pressure of debts of the Third World; and increase in demand for food with the growth in population—these are the factors contributory to the deepening of the impending crisis.

It may be added that the Science Advisory Council to the Prime Minister of India has also raised the alarm signal about the food crisis if the foodgrain output were not raised substantially by the start of the eighth plan. Target for 1989-90 is 175 million ton which must be jacked up to 300 million ton by the turn of the century.

DEBT REDUCTION STRATEGY

★ In sharp contrast to the plan of James Baker for debt relief through debt forgiveness or debt reduction, the present US Treasury Secretary, Mr Nicholas F. Brady, has suggested a two-pronged approach to provide relief to the heavily indebted nations. He envisages voluntary reduction in commercial bank loans and interest charges on a case-by-case basis; stepping up of aid by the World Bank and the IMF to help the debtor countries to pay off the bank loans; provision of collateral by the international agencies to the debtor countries; and increase in the IMF quota.

Simultaneously, the Brady plan calls upon the indebted countries to make appropriate economic adjustments for growth-oriented policies, promote investment and encourage savings. The international financial agencies have not come forward to provide funds to offset debts. Therefore only the commercial banks can participate in debt write offs. More important than the waiver in debt which may have a demoralising effect on the debtor is to stop reverse transfer of capital from the Third World to the creditor countries. At

present, a big chunk of the national income of the developing countries is siphoned off to the industrialised nations by way of debt repayment and interest charges.

Michael Camdessus, Manager Director, IMF, believes that debt reduction strategy should be growth-oriented.

CONSORTIUM AID

★ Convinced of India's claim for a substantial foreign aid, the 13-nation Aid India Consortium has pledged an aid of the order of 6.7 billion dollar for 1989-90 representing an increase of six per cent over that of 6.3 billion dollar for 1988-89. The rationale for the step up in aid is the good track record of the country on the economic front. By making productive use of the aid flows India has been able to reduce the poverty ratio, accelerate the industrial growth rate to 8-9 per cent, impart resilience and strength to the farm economy and repair the drought-hit economy.

India is now on a higher growth path. The eighth five year plan has set the target of achieving an average annual growth rate of at least six per cent. If it is touched it will be a record. In fact, we can do much better with greater resources.

WDR 1989

★ Financial re-structuring is the central theme of the 1989 World Development Report. The pre-requisites suggested by the Report are: reducing fiscal deficits and financing them by borrowing from a securities market. Financing them with loans from the Central bank (in the case of India, the Reserve Bank of India) is inflationary; less inflationary, if the money is borrowed from commercial banks and least if the loans are taken from a security market. The World Bank suggests the starting of a securities market. This is not impossible provided the government is willing to pay the market rate of interest. The government borrowing from the commercial banks tends to reduce bank profitability, distort interest rates and crowd out the private sector borrowers.

The second pre-requisite is libe-

ralisation in interest rate determination by the market forces. The directed credit programmes may be limited to priority sectors and the policy of subsidised interest rates abandoned. An effective auditing and accounting system and non-banking financial institutions need to be developed.

THE BUSH REGIME

★ President George Bush has inherited America which is now the largest debtor country in the world; has huge budgetary and trade deficits; high poverty ratio; low savings rate; smaller share in the expanding world trade, depreciated dollar in terms of international reserve currencies, say Yen and D'Mark; low tax rates but high public spending (including defence); and an overheated economy. In this economic scenario, will President Reagan's policy of "spending too much, investing too little and saving virtually nothing" be changed? Or will President Bush prefer to have status quo? These are difficult questions. However, it is felt that the post-Reagan economy will stay strong. The challenge before the Bush Administration will be how to maintain steady growth without inflation; eliminate or substantially reduce the trade as well as budgetary deficits; restore exchange rate stability or, at least, recover dollar from the present volatile state.

SUPER 301, SPECIAL 301

★ The Bush Administration recently placed India alongwith two other countries, Brazil and Japan, under Super 301 and Special 301 of the US Trade and Competitiveness Act 1988. The plea is that America's trade deficits are due to the "unfair and restrictive trade practices" of its trading partners. In the case of India, the two such trade practices identified are: trade-related investment measures (TRIMs) like FERA and the barriers to trade in service such as ban on entry of foreign companies in the insurance business.

India is on the "priority watch list" under section 301 of the Act in respect of trade-related intellectual property rights (TRIPs), such as use of

American inventions in pharmaceuticals.

The unilateral action on the part of US has attracted adverse criticism not only from the "named" countries but also from other sources including academics in the US. It is feared that the use of Super 301 will jeopardise the outcome of the Uruguay Round. It is violative of the principle of multilateralism of GATT. In fact, it will boomerang on the US trade with these countries. India may be pressurised by the already hostile Opposition to change its stance towards the Bush Administration. The international relations would deteriorate to the disadvantage of US.

Round-up of International Affairs

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EARLY END OF APARTHEID LIKELY

★ At long last, after decades of cruelty, oppression and blatant denial of fundamental rights to the blacks, besides the indefensible racial discrimination—apartheid—there are signs that good sense may prevail among the Whites of South Africa. The hopes of an early end, or at any rate, of some of the more cruel racial laws which ensure total supremacy and exclusive rights to the Whites being relaxed, have been strengthened by the new South African President's policy pronouncements. Soon after the exit of the former President, Mr Botha (who was a diehard and would never ensure equality and a fair deal to the blacks) and the induction of Mr F.W. de Klerk as his successor, there were indications of gradual liberalisation. Some black prisoners who had spent long years in jail have been set free, though Mr Nelson Mandela, the most prominent of them, is still behind the bars.

A significant pointer to a liberalised regime was the rejection on November 10 of the concept of the "Whites Only" State by Mr Klerk. He affirmed his policy of power sharing with the blacks.

Within 5 years South Africa is likely to have a new Constitution that would include blacks in the national government.

SPORTS Round-up

NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

ARCHERY

National Championships:

Men: Bengal

Women: Bengal

ATHLETICS

28th National Championship:

Men team title: Railways

Women team title: Railways

Women National Games: Punjab

Junior National Championship: Punjab

School National Games: Punjab

National Marathon:

Men: Hari Singh (Railways)

Women: Asha Agarwal (Railways)

BADMINTON

National Championships:

Men's Singles: Vimal Kumar (Karnataka)

Women's Singles: Madhumita Bisht (Railways)

Team Titles:

Rahimtolla Cup (Men): Maharashtra

Chadha Cup (Women): Railways

BASKETBALL

National Championships:

Men's: Railways

Women's: Railways

BILLIARDS

National Championship:

Billiards: Subhash Agarwal

Snookers: Rajiv Jangtiani

BOXING

National Championships: Services

BRIDGE

National Championships:

Holkar Trophy (National Masters Pairs Events): Kamal Mukherjee and Santanu Ghose (Calcutta)

Singhania Trophy (team of four progressive events): Mukul Chatterjee's four of Calcutta

Arvind Lalbhai Trophy (Mixed pair): Subash Gupta and K. Nadar

CHESS

National Team Championship:

Union Bank "A"

National "A" Championship:

Praveen Thipsay (Maharashtra)

Women's National Championship

(V.V. Shastri Trophy): Bhagyashree

Sathe (Maharashtra)

CRICKET

Ranji Trophy: Delhi

Duleep Trophy: North Zone & West Zone (joint winners)

Deodhar Trophy: North Zone

Wills Trophy: Delhi

C.K. Nayudu Trophy: West Zone

Vijay Hazare Trophy: North Zone

Vizzy Trophy: North Zone

Cooch Behar Trophy: West Zone

Irani Trophy: Tamil Nadu

Vijay Merchant Trophy: East Zone

Women's National Championship: Railways

CYCLING

National Championships:

Men: Indian Railways

Women: Bihar

FOOTBALL

National Championship (Santosh Trophy): Bengal

Airlines Gold Cup: East Bengal

Women's Championship: Kerala and West Bengal

Nehru Gold Cup: Hungary

Durand Cup: Border Security Force, Jalandhar

Federation Cup: Salgaocar Club, Goa

Stafford Cup: East Bengal Club (Calcutta)

I.F.A. Shield Tournament: Penasol Club (Uruguay)

Rovers Cup: Mohun Bagan

Subroto Cup: Madhyam Gram School of Bengal

D.C.M. Tournament: Posco Steel Club, S. Korea

Sanjay Gandhi Gold Cup: Moham-medan Sporting Club

GOLF

Women's Open Championship:

Nomita Lall

National Amateur Championship:

Rajiv Mohatta

Indian Open Championship: Remy Bonchard (Canada)

HOCKEY

National Championships (Rangaswamy Cup): Bombay

Women's National Championship: Punjab

Junior National Championship: Uttar Pradesh

Dhyan Chand Trophy: Punjab & Sind Bank

Maharaja Ranjit Singh Gold Cup: Army Service Corps

Beighton Cup: Army Service Corps

Aga Khan Cup: Border Security force, Jalandhar

Nehru Gold Cup: Indian Airlines

Scindia Gold Cup: M.E.G., Bangalore

Surjit Memorial Tournament: Punjab & Sind Bank

Indira Gold Cup: Punjab & Sind Bank, Jalandhar

SQUASH

National Championship:

Men: Meherwan Daruwala (Bombay)

Women: Bhubaneswari Kumari (Delhi)

SWIMMING

National Championships: Maharashtra

TABLE TENNIS

National Championships:

Men's Singles (Pithanpuram Cup): Manmeet Singh (Delhi)

Women's Singles (Travancore Cup): Rinku Gupta (Madhya Pradesh)

TENNIS

National Championships:

Men: Zeshan Ali

Women: Peggy Zaman

National Hard Court Championships:

Men: S. Vasudevan (Tamil Nadu)

Women: Yamini Sekhri (Delhi)

INTERNATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

GAMES

SAF Games

India ruled supreme in the seven-nation fourth South Asian Federation Games which concluded at Islamabad on October 27, 1989.

The medals tally was as follows:

Country	Gold	Silver	Bronze
India	49	35	20
Pakistan	34	25	19
Sri Lanka	6	10	21
Bangladesh	1	12	22
Nepal	1	9	17
Bhutan	0	0	3

(Maldives did not collect any medal).

The next SAF games are scheduled to be held at Colombo, Sri Lanka in 1991.

ATHLETICS

World Athletic Championships:

The nine-day second World Track and Field Championships concluded in a triumph for East Germany at Rome on September 6, 1987. A greater show in athletics was never seen before and may not be seen again till at least the 1991 Third World Championships at Tokyo.

World Cup Marathon:

Men: Ahmed Sabh (Djibouti)

Women: Katrin Deorre (East Germany)

ARCHERY

Asia Cup

India won the Asia Cup Archery Championships team title at Beijing (China).

Limba Ram, Hkalsang Dorji and Sham Lal were members of the Indian team. They defeated the reigning Olympic Champions, S. Korea.

BADMINTON

Thomas Cup: China

Uber Cup: China

All England Championships:

Men's title: Yang Yang (China)

Women's title: Li Lingwei (China)

World Cup Championships:

Men's title: Yang Yang (China)

Women's title: Li Lingwei (China)

BASKETBALL

Men's World Championship: USA

Women's World Championship: USA

BILLIARDS

World Amateur Championship:

Darren Morgan (Wales)

Asian Championship: Geet Sethi

World Snooker Cup: Ireland

Asian Snooker Championship: James Waltana P. Orbon (Thailand)

BOXING

World Boxing Championships:

Cuba

World Heavyweight Title: Mike Tyson (U.S.A.)

CHESS

World Cup: Anatoly Karpov (USSR)

World Chess Champion: Garry Kasparov (USSR)

World Junior Crown: Vishwanathan Anand (India)

World Team Championship: Soviet Union

Women's World Title: Maya Chebur Donidze (USSR)

Asian Team Championship: China

CRICKET

Reliance (World) Cup: Australia

Asia Cup: India

Champion's Trophy: Pakistan

Nehru Cup: Pakistan

FOOTBALL

World Cup: Argentina

Merdeka Cup: Malaysia

Asian Cup: Saudi Arabia

European Championship: Netherlands

President's Cup: South Korea

GOLF

Master's Championship: Jack Nicklaus (U.S.A.)

U.S. Open: Curtis Strange (USA)

HOCKEY

Indira Gandhi Gold Cup (Women): Soviet Union

Indira Gandhi Gold Cup (Men): Pakistan

Men's Champions Trophy: Australia

Women's Champions Trophy: Netherlands

Women's World Cup: Holland

World Cup: Australia

Asia Cup: Pakistan

MOTORING

Kenya Safari Rally: Hannu Mikkola (Finland)

Himalayan Car Rally: Kenjiro Shinozuka (Japan)

SQUASH

Asian Championships: Pakistan

World Championship: Jahangir Khan

World Women title: Susan Devoy (New Zealand)

TABLE TENNIS

World Championships:

Men (Swaythling Cup): Sweden

Women (Marcel Corbillion Cup): China

Men's Singles (St Bride's Vase): Ian-Ove Waldner (Sweden)

Women's Singles (G. Geist Prize): Qiao Hong (China)

Asian Championship:

Men: Kiyoshi Saito (Japan)

Women: Yu-Sun Buk (N. Korea)

TENNIS

Wimbledon Championships:

Men: Boris Becker (West Germany)

Women: Steffi Graf (W. Germany)

Davis Cup: West Germany

Federation Cup: Czechoslovakia

World Team Cup: Sweden

U.S. Open:

Men: Boris Becker (West Germany)

Women: Steffi Graf (W. Germany)

French Open Championships:

Men: Michael Chang (USA)

Women: Arantxa Sanchez

Australian Open Championships:

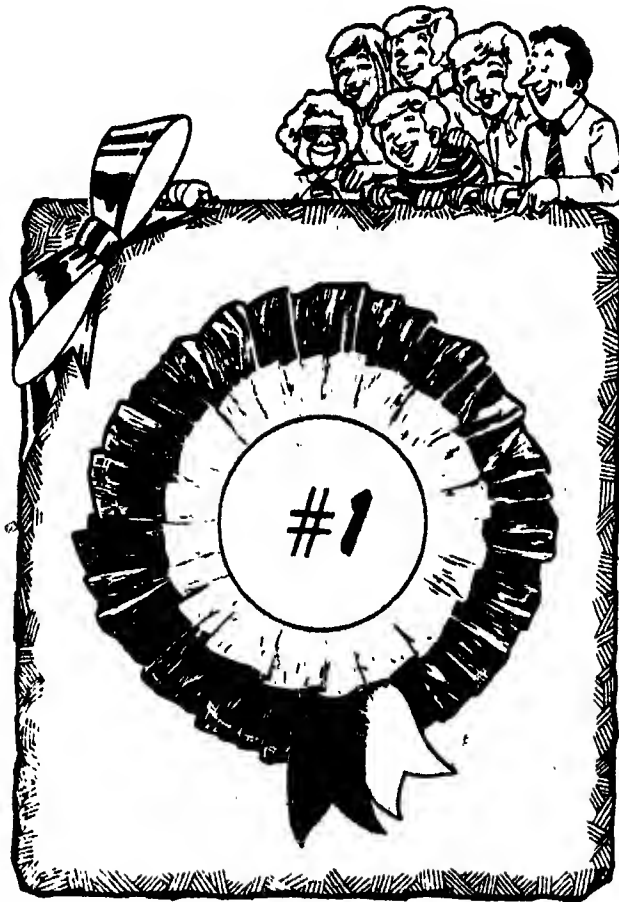
Men: Ivan Lendl (Czechoslovakia)

Women: Steffi Graf (West Germany)

Women's Federation Cup: West Germany

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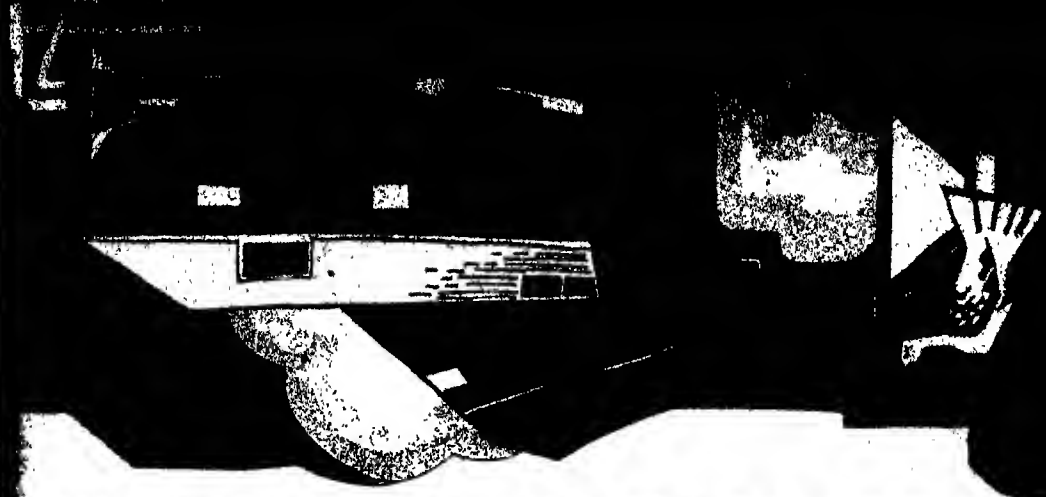
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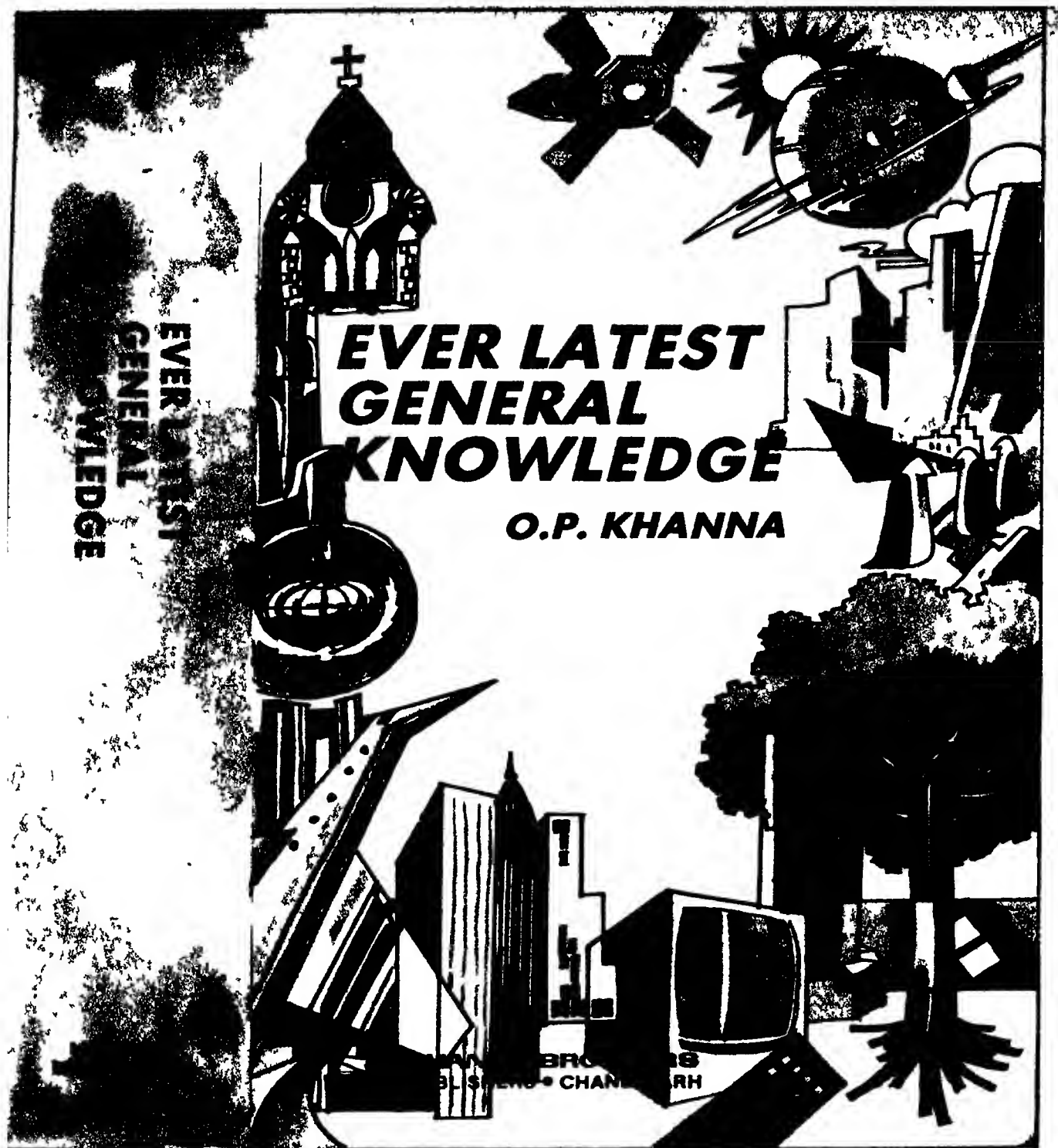
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Round-up of Current General Knowledge

ABBREVIATIONS

ABSU: The All Bodo Students Union.

ALH: Advanced Light Helicopter.

ASLV: Augmented Satellite Launch Vehicle.

CLASS: Computer Literacy and Studies in School.

DDC: Distributor Digital Control System.

DRDO: Defence Research and Development Organisation.

EVM: Electronic Voting Machine.

IPKF: Indian Peace Keeping Force.

ISDN: Integrated Services Digital Network.

LTTE: Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam.

MTCR: Missile Technology Control Regime.

NCR: National Capital Region.

NIES: Newly Industrialising Economies.

NPTC: National Power Transmission Corporation.

NSG: Nuclear Suppliers' Group.

OSD: Officer on Special Duty.

SIDBI: Small Industries Development Bank of India.

SAARC: South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation.

SAVE: SAARC Audio Visual Exchange.

ZOPFAN: Zone of Peace, Freedom and Neutrality.

AWARDS

NATIONAL AWARDS

Republic Day Awards, 1989

✓ **Bharat Ratna:** Not given to anyone.

Padma Vibhushan: Uma Shankar Dikshit, Octogenarian political figure; Ustad Ali Akbar Khan, eminent musician; and Dr M.S. Swaminathan, world known agricultural scientist.

Padma Bhushan: Prominent among the winners of this award

were: Mrs Anna Malhotra (Civil Service—Bombay), Dr (Mrs) Banoo Jehangir Coyaji (family planning—Pune), Late Lord Fenner Brockway (Public Life—United Kingdom), Mrs Girija Devi (vocal music—Varanasi), Girilal Jain (Journalist—New Delhi), Rustomji Hormusji Mody (Private sector management—Jamshedpur), S.S. Nadkarni (Public sector banking—Bombay).

Padma Shri: Prominent among the winners of this award were: A.K. Raja Rao Lakshman (Bharat Natyam—Madras), Mrs Anita Desai (English literature—New Delhi), Dr B.L. Chaturvedi (Hindi literature—New Delhi), K.P.S. Gill (Civil Service—Chandigarh), Dr L. Subramaniam (Indian classical music—Madras), Mrs Rajmohini Devi (social work—Madhya Pradesh), Ratan Thiyam (Drama—Imphal), Ved Prakash Marwah (Civil Services—New Delhi).

Gallantry Awards, 1989

Mahavir Chakra: Capt Pratap Singh of the artillery regiment has been awarded the Maha Vir Chakra (Posthumous) for displaying conspicuous courage and valour facing the enemy in the Siachen sector.

Jnanpith Award, 1988

★ The 24th Jnanpith award (1988) has been given to Dr C.N. Reddy, Vice-Chancellor of Telugu University for his outstanding contribution to Indian literature during 1968 and 1983.

The award is considered the highest literacy award in India. It carries a cash prize of Rs 1.50 lakh.

Moortidevi Literary Award, 1986

★ The noted Hindi and Rajasthani poet, Mr Kanhaiya Lal Sethia for his collection of poems, titled "Nir-granth".

Nehru Literacy Award, 1987

★ Noted scholar, author and parliamentarian Prof N.G. Ranga for his contribution towards removal of illiteracy among the adult men and

women of India.

Jamnalal Bajaj Awards, 1989

For promoting Gandhian values outside India: Danilo Dolci of Italy.

For outstanding contribution in the field of constructive work: K. Janardanan Pillai of Trivandrum.

For application of science and technology for rural development: T.G.K. Menon of Indore.

For outstanding contribution to the upliftment and welfare of women and children: Mrs Indirabai Halbe of Ratnagiri district in Maharashtra. This award is reserved for women.

Each award consists of a citation, a medal and a cash prize of Rs one lakh.

B.C. Roy Award

★ Dr D.P. Kulapati, eminent physician for his contribution to development of different specialties in medicine.

Dhanvantri Award, 1989

★ The eminent naturopath, Dr J.M. Jussawalla, of Bombay, has been awarded the Dhanvantri award, 1989. The award is considered as the ultimate recognition in medical profession of India.

Kalidas Samman, 1988

★ The 1988 Kalidas Samman for classical music has been given to the well-known classical vocalist Mrs M.S. Subbulakshmi.

The Kalidas Samman for theatre has been given to the celebrated actress Mrs Tripti Mitra.

The award has been instituted by the Madhya Pradesh Government and carries Rs one lakh and a plaque of honour.

Tansen Samman, 1989

★ Mrs Mongubai Kurdikar, a senior and veteran artiste of Jaipur gharana.

The award has been instituted by the Madhya Pradesh government and carries a cash amount of Rs 51,000 and a citation.

Iqbal Samman, 1989

★ Ms Ismat Chughtai has been given the prestigious Iqbal Samman for contribution to Urdu literature.

The award carries Rs 1 lakh in cash and a plaque of honour. It is given on the basis of exceptional achievement, outstanding creativity and dedication to the Urdu literature.

The award has been instituted by the Government of Madhya Pradesh.

Kabir Samman, 1989

★ Noted Hindi poet Shamsheer Bahadur Singh has been chosen for the prestigious Kabir Samman for 1989.

Kabir Samman is a national-level award, presented for excellence, creativity and high standards of Indian poetry over a long period. It has been instituted by the Madhya Pradesh government and carries a citation and cash award of Rs 1.5 lakh.

Indira Gandhi Award for National Integration, 1988

★ Mr P.N. Haksar, a distinguished civil servant and diplomat, has been awarded the 1988 Indira Gandhi award for National Integration.

The award carries Rs one lakh in cash and a citation.

Indira Gandhi Environment Award, 1988

★ The 1988 Indira Gandhi Paryavaran (Environment) award has been given to Prof Sreedharan, director Sahitya Kerala Shastra Parishad for popularising environmental issues through publications.

Lal Bahadur Shastri Memorial Award, 1988

For Promoting Indian Cultural, ethical and moral values abroad: Ram Lal Sachdev.

For outstanding contribution to Agricultural Sciences: Dr V.R.P. Sinha, director of Central Institute of Fisheries; Dr Ram Pratap Singh, director of Extension, N.D. University of Agriculture and Technology.

For outstanding contribution to development: Dr S.Z. Qasim, who led the first Indian expedition to Antarctica; Dr Pran Pyari Bhat, a senior scientist of National Biotechnology

Centre.

Arjuna Awards, 1987

★ Balwinder Singh, Bagicha Singh, Ms Vandana Rao and Ms Vandana Shanbagh (all athletes), Seera Jayaram (boxer), D.V. Prasad and Mrs Bhagyashree Pravin Thipsay (both chess), Maj Jitendrajit Singh Ahluwalia (equestrian), Lt Col Kuldip Singh Garcha (Polo), Naman Virendra Parekh (roller skating), Mrs Monalisa Barua Mehta (table tennis), G. Devan (weightlifting), Subhash (wrestling), C.S. Pradipak (yachting) and Ms Monica Lal (golf).

The Arjuna award was instituted by the Government in 1961 and it consists of a bronze statue of Arjuna, a scroll and a cash award which has been increased from Rs 5,000 to Rs 20,000 from this year.

Dronacharya Awards, 1987

★ Guru Hanuman (wrestling) and Gurcharan Singh (cricket).

The award was instituted in 1985 to honour and convey the recognition of the nation to coaches of eminence in the country. The award consists of a plaque, a scroll and a cash prize of Rs 40,000.

INTERNATIONAL AWARDS

Nobel Prize, 1989

For Peace: The Dalai Lama, the exiled god-king of Tibet.

For Literature: Camilo Jose Cela of Spain.

For Physics: US scientists Norman F. Ramsey and Hans G. Dehmelt and West German scientist Wolfgang Paul share the award.

For Chemistry: Prof Sidney Altman and Prof Thomas Cech, both of USA.

For Medicine: J. Michael Bishop, a microbiologist and Harold E. Varmus of USA.

For Economics: Trygve Haavelmo of Norway.

Jawaharlal Nehru Award for International Understanding, 1988

★ The prestigious Jawaharlal Nehru award for International Understanding has been given to the PLO Chief, Mr Yasser Arafat. He is the 23rd recipient of the award.

The award carries a cash prize of Rs 15 lakh and a citation.

Indira Gandhi Peace Award, 1988

★ The 1988 Indira Gandhi award for peace, disarmament and development has been given to the Prime Minister of Norway, Mrs Gro Harlem Brundtland.

The award carries a cash prize of Rs 15 lakh.

Pulitzer Prizes, 1989

For International Reporting: Glenn Frankel of 'The Washington Post' for reporting from Israel and West Asia and Bill Keller of 'The New York Times' for coverage of the Soviet Union.

For fiction: Anne Tyler for her feature *Breathing Lessons*.

For non-fiction: John Paul Vann for his feature *A Bright Shining Lie* and Neil Sheehan for his feature *America in Vietnam*.

For feature series: David Zucchino of Philadelphia Inquirer for his feature series, *Being Black in South Africa*.

For investigative reporting: Bill Dedman of the Atlanta Journal and Constitution for his investigation into racial discrimination by Atlanta's leading institutions.

Ramon Magsaysay Awards, 1989

For Public Service: Lakshmi Chand Jain of India.

For Journalism, Literature and Creative Communication Arts: Jesuit Priest Rev James Bertram Reuter Jr of USA.

For Government Service: Zakiah Hanum Binti Abdul Hamid of Malaysia.

For Community Leadership: Kim Im-Soon of S. Korea.

Each winner received a gold medal, a scroll and \$ 30,000.

World Food Prize, 1989

★ Dr E.H.P. Verghese Kurien, chairman of the National Dairy Development Board, Anand, has bagged the prestigious World Food Prize for 1989.

Booker prize, 1988

★ The prestigious Booker prize for

1988 has been awarded to Peter Carey of Australia for his novel 'Oscar and Lucinda'.

1987 Kalinga Prize

★ Dr Marcel Roche, permanent delegate of Venezuela to UNESCO.

The award is given for the popularisation of science and carries a cash prize of \$ 1000 (Rs 20,000).

FILM AWARDS

Dada Saheb Phalke Award, 1988

★ Veteran film actor, Ashok Kumar, has been chosen for the prestigious 1988 Dada Saheb Phalke award.

36th National Film Awards

Best Feature Film: Piravi (Malayalam) directed by Shaji N. Karun.

Best Actor: Premji for his role in Piravi.

Best Actress: Archana for her role in Dasi (Telugu).

Best male singer: S.P. Balasubrahmaniam (Rudra Veena, Telugu).

Best female singer: Chithra (Vaisali, Malayalam).

Best director: Shaji Karun (Piravi).

Best Music director: Illaiya Raja (Rudra Veena, Telugu).

Best Child actor: Shafiq Syed (Salaam Bombay).

Best supporting actor: Pankaj Kapoor (Rakh).

Best supporting actress: Uttara Baokar (Ek Din Achanak).

Nargis Dutt award for best film on National Integration: Rudra Veena (Telugu) directed by K. Balachandra.

Best children's film: Manu Uncle (Malayalam) directed by Dennis Joseph.

Best lyric: O.N.V. Kurup (Vaisali, Malayalam).

Indira Gandhi award for best first film of a director: Trishagni, directed by Nabendu Ghosh.

Best film on social issues: Main Zinda Hoon.

The other films which have won the best feature film awards in the various regional languages are: Kolahal (Assamese), Bannada Vesha (Kannada), Rugmini (Malayalam), Kichi Smrutikichi Anubhuti (Oriya), In Which Annie Gives It Those Ones

(English), Salaam Bombay (Hindi).

Best non-feature film: Kanak Purandardas, directed by Girish Karnad.

BOOKS

Oscar and Lucinda

★ This book has been written by Peter Carey of Australia, who has been awarded the 1988 Booker Prize.

It is a romantic mystery—the story of an unlikely love affair between a 19th century clerk and an heiress with gambling addiction—set in the pioneering days of Australia.

The Family of Pascual Duarte

★ This novel is written by Camilo Jose Cela, 73, who is the winner of 1989 Nobel Prize for literature. It is a memoir of a triple murderer awaiting execution.

The novel portrays a Spanish countryside awash in vengeance and bloodshed. The novel was censored and banned in Spain.

Viswambhara

★ Viswambhara is a poetic account of the victory of man over obstacles. It is written by Dr C.N Reddy, winner of the 1988 Jnanpith award. The book depicts the saga of human civilisation and the gradual unfolding of the human spirit which relentlessly pursues lofty ideals, overcoming all obstacles with supreme sacrifice.

DEFENCE

Agni propels India into IRBM club

★ On May 22, 1989 India successfully launched Agni, intermediate range ballistic missile, becoming the sixth country in the world to have IRBM capability.

The missile was launched from the interim test range at Chandipur-on-sea in Orissa.

Agni has a range of 2,500 km. It is a two-stage missile. The design, development, fabrication and testing of subsystems and components of the missile was totally indigenous. The primary mission of the launch was to test the performance of an indigenously developed heatshield which is a key hardware in weapon delivery system.

The successful maiden flight of

Agni renews India's confidence in the capabilities of its scientists and in the maturity of indigenous technologies.

It is recognised that accurate long range surface-to-surface missiles have a new relevance because they could provide a non-nuclear option. Agni is expected to provide such options to the country in facing an increasingly complex security environment.

Indra-I, the hi-tech detection radar, inducted

★ On March 26, 1989 the first indigenous low level flight detection early warning radar, Indra-I was inducted into Indian Air Force. With this India became the fourth country in the world to manufacture such type of radar.

Indra-I has been designed, developed and produced by the Electronics Radar Development Establishment (ERDE) and Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL).

The radar has seventy per cent indigenous content and is estimated to cost Rs five crore.

It is designed to pick up invading combat aircraft coming in at tree top level at a distance of about 50 km. The distracting images thrown up by radar waves reflecting from the ground environment are filtered.

Shalki—First India-built sub-launched

★ INS Shalki, the first submarine to be built in India was launched on September 30, 1989 by Mrs Sonia Gandhi, wife of Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi.

The submarine has been built to design and drawings of Howaldts-werke Deutsche Werft (HDW) of West Germany, at Mazagon Dock, Bombay.

The submarine has costed Rs 150 crore. The launch is a important landmark in the country's pursuit of self-reliance in warship construction. With this India has joined ten other technologically advanced countries in the world which build their own submarines.

The submarine will be commissioned to join the Indian Navy after about one-and-a-half years of exten-

sive trials.

Submarine rescue vessel for navy

★ A diving support vessel, INS *Nirikshak* was handed over to the Indian Navy on June 8, 1989 thus ending its ten-year search for a submarine rescue vessel.

INS *Nirikshak* has been built by the Mazagon Docks Limited, Bombay. It is capable of saturation diving, pipeline inspecting, NDT testing and underwater photography.

EXPEDITIONS

Eighth Antarctica expedition

★ The eighth Indian expedition to Antarctica left Goa on November 27, 1988, in the Swedish ice breaker *Thuleland*.

The 100-member Indian team was led by Dr Amitava Sengupta of the National Physical Laboratory, New Delhi.

One of the main tasks before the expedition was construction of second permanent station, *Maitri*, which is located 80 km away from the first station *Dakshin Gangotri*.

Scientific activities covered geological mapping, studies on ozone depletion, Oceanographic studies, geomagnetism and natural radioactivity.

The expedition undertook geochemical studies to compare eastern Antarctica and South India land mass.

The expedition returned on March 20, 1989.

NUCLEAR ENERGY

Narora Unit goes critical

★ On March 12, 1989 the first unit of the Narora Atomic Power plant, situated in Uttar Pradesh, attained criticality. This achievement was yet another demonstration of the country's self-reliant capability in harnessing nuclear energy for peaceful purposes.

The plant consists of two pressurised heavy water reactors of 235 MW each. The reactors use natural uranium fuel and heavy water as moderator and coolant. It is expected to cost Rs 532 crore.

PERSONS

Altman, Prof Sidney

★ He is the winner of the 1989 Nobel Prize for Chemistry. He has been involved in research for the past decade or so at the Yale University.

His research has forced scientists to completely alter their ideas not only of how cells function but also of how life began on earth.

He has discovered that RNA can act as an enzyme, a molecule that accelerates chemical reactions a million fold or more and makes it possible for life to exist. Until RNA enzymes were identified, all enzymes were thought to be proteins.

Bishop J. Michael

★ He is the co-winner of the 1989 Nobel Prize for Medicine along with fellow researcher Harold E. Varmus. They have been carrying out research at the University of California at San Francisco, USA since mid '70s.

His research has helped explain the role of genetic damage in cancer development.

Cech, Thomas

★ Thomas Cech of the University of Colorado, USA is the co-winner of the 1989 Nobel Prize for Chemistry. He has found that RNA can copy itself, suggesting that the first living organisms may not have solely depended on DNA, the principal carrier of hereditary information in plants, animals and bacteria.

Cela, Camilo Jose

★ Seventy-three-year-old, Mr Camilo Jose Cela has been awarded the 1989 Nobel Prize for Literature. He is considered the leading figure in the literary renewal of Spain during the post-war era.

His best known work has been the novel *The Family of Pascual Duarte*. It was written in 1942 and was censored and banned in Spain.

Most of his works are based on his experiences in the Spanish Civil war, in which he was wounded.

Dalai Lama, The

★ The Dalai Lama has been given the 1989 Nobel Peace Prize for his non-violent struggle to free Tibet from Chinese rule.

He was born Tenzin Gyatso in 1935 in a poor agricultural family in

Amdo province in eastern Tibet. He was "discovered" as successor to Thubten Gyato, the 13th Dalai Lama, who passed in 1933.

He is the 14th Dalai Lama, chosen when he was five as the reincarnation of Tibet's god-king, making him both the religious and political leader of the isolated mountain kingdom until the Chinese take-over in 1950. He has been in exile at Dharamsala (India) since 1959.

Dehmelt, Hans G.

★ Dr Dehmelt has been awarded the 1989 Nobel Prize for Physics. The honour has been bestowed on him for the development of the ion trap technique.

67-year-old Dr Dehmelt was born in Goerlitz, Germany. He moved to USA in 1952 to do post-graduate studies at Duke University in North Carolina. He has been at the University of Washington since 1955, and is a US citizen.

Dolci, Danilo

★ Danilo Dolci is the winner of 1989 Jamnalal Bajaj award for promoting Gandhian values outside India. He adopted non-violent resistance to fight injustice and the mafia in Italy. He has written several books on removal of hunger. Development of an alternative form of education and organisation of cooperatives and unions for betterment of village communities have been his major achievements.

Drnovsek, Dr Janez

★ Dr Janez Drnovsek, President of Yugoslavia, has taken over as the Chairman of the 102-member Non-aligned Movement (NAM).

Dr Drnovsek was born on May 17, 1950 in Celje in the Yugoslav republic of Slovenia. He was elected President of Yugoslavia on May 15, 1989. He has authored number of scientific papers on credit, monetary credit and international financial relations. He is fluent in English, French, Spanish and German.

Haavelmo, Trygve

★ He is the winner of the 1989 Nobel Prize for Economics. He is a professor at the University of Oslo, Norway.

He has been honoured for his

work in early 1940s that laid the foundation for econometrics, which uses mathematical models to study the behaviour of an economy. All the analysis of economic trends are based on Haavelmo's econometric theories.

His big contribution was to show that the relationship between such factors as income and spending was far more complex than had been thought.

Halbe, Mrs Indirabai

★ Mrs Indirabai Halbe is the recipient of the 1989 Jamnalal Bajaj award for outstanding contribution to the upliftment and welfare of women and children.

She became a widow at a young age and lost her only daughter a few years later. She completed a two-year course in nursing and started a maternity centre at Deorukh in Ratnagiri district of Maharashtra. Today the centre has grown into a 40-bed hospital catering to the needs of 50 surrounding villages.

Harold E. Varmus

See under **Bishop J. Michael.**

Jain, Lakshmi C.

★ He has become 27th Indian to win the prestigious Ramon Mag-saysay award. The 1989 award for public service has been awarded to him in recognition of his selfless commitment to relieving India's poverty from the grass roots.

Mr Jain was an active freedom fighter and participated in the Quit India Movement as well as post-partition work for the resettlement of refugees in and around Delhi.

He studied economics at Harvard, USA and has authored several papers on various economic themes and development programmes.

Mazowiecki, Tadeusz

★ He is the first non-communist Prime Minister in eastern Europe since 1948 and first Catholic Prime Minister of Poland since war.

Mr Mazowiecki was born in the central Polish town of Plock. A close adviser of Lech Walesa, he helped from the Solidarity union in 1980 and was jailed for year after the government crackdown in 1981. He is a qualified lawyer and editor of the

union weekly, *Tygodnik Solidarnosc*. He was a key negotiator in the round-table talks that led to the legalization of Solidarity and opposition participation in June 1989 elections.

Menon, T.G.K.

★ Mr T.G.K. Menon is recipient of the 1989 Jamnalal Bajaj award for application of science and technology for rural development. As director of the Rural Centre of the Kasturba Gandhi National Memorial Trust at Kasturbagram, Indore, he has undertaken a large number of innovative agricultural and related activities.

The *Krishi Kshetra*, set up under Mr Menon's leadership, has done notable work in technology transfer in the field of rural energy.

Mukherjee, Hemant Kumar

★ A master of lilting melodies and one of the greatest exponents of Rabindra Sangeet, Hemant Kumar died on September 27, 1989 at the age of 69. He captured the hearts of millions with his haunting voice, during a career spanning over five decades.

He was born in Benaras in 1920. He began his journey in the world of music as a staff artist of the Calcutta station of All India Radio. He got his first break in music when he was just 15.

His reputation as a musician was established with Hindi films like *Lal Pathar* and *Nagin*.

Hemant Kumar also produced a number of films that left a distinct mark on Indian cinema. These include *Bees Saal Baad*, *Kohra* and *Khaamoshi*.

Olivier, Sir Laurence

★ Sir Laurence Olivier, considered the greatest actor of his generation, died on July 11, 1989 at the age of 82.

He was born on May 22, 1907. He began acting at the age of five with his mother as audience. He joined his first theatre company at 18 and his first appearance was in "The Taming of the Shrew" at Stratford in 1922. At the age of 23 he went to Hollywood.

For Olivier life and acting were inseparable. By turns he loved and hated his craft—but never could contemplate retiring from it. Acting,

simply, consumed him.

Pathak, Justice R.S.

★ Mr Justice R.S. Pathak, Chief Justice of India, is the third Indian to be elected to the International Court of Justice which is the principal judicial organ of the UN.

He was born on November 26, 1924. He started his career in 1948 as an advocate in the Allahabad High Court. He became a judge of the Supreme Court on February 20, 1978.

A judge of the World Court draws the salary of an Under-Secretary General of UN—approximately \$ 90,000 a year, tax free.

Paul, Wolfgang

★ Dr Paul has been awarded the 1989 Nobel Prize for Physics for the development of the ion trap technique. He shares the second half of the prize with Dr Dehmelt.

He was born in Lorenzkrich, Germany in 1913. In 1952 he became Professor of experimental physics at the University of Bonn. From 1965 to 1967 he served as director of the division of nuclear physics at Cern. At present he is associated with the University of Bonn.

Pillai, K. Janardanan

★ Seventy-two-year-old Mr Pillai is the winner of 1989 Jamnalal Bajaj award for outstanding contribution in the field of constructive work. He has done extensive work in introducing modern farming, social forestry and undertaking employment generating activities through khadi and village industries.

He actively participated in the freedom struggle and has been associated with the Kerala branch of the Gandhi Samarak Nidhi since its formation in 1951.

Ramsey, Norman F.

★ Norman F. Ramsey is the co-winner of the 1989 Nobel Prize for Physics. His invention, yielding the Cesium atomic clock, is the best for the present standard time. It has an accuracy of about one part in ten thousand billion, or 10 followed by 13 zeroes.

Dr Ramsey, 74, has been at Harvard University in Cambridge, Massachusetts, since 1947 and was President of the American Physical

Society from 1978-1979.

Reddy, Dr C.N.

★ Dr C.N. Reddy is the winner of the prestigious 1988 Inanpith award. He is the second Telugu writer to be honoured with the award.

Dr Reddy was born in 1931. He is a multi-splendoured personality of the modern Telugu literature. He started his poetic career in his teens with a slender volume of lyrics *Navvuni Puvvu* (The Bashful Flower).

Mantaru Manavudu (The Flame and the Man) and *Viswambhara*, an epic poem in free verse, are considered to be his masterpieces.

Sethia, Kanhaiya Lal

★ Kanhaiya Lal Sethia, the noted Hindi and Rajasthani poet has been awarded the 1986 Moortidevi Literary Award for his collection of poems, titled "Nirgranth".

68-year-old Mr Sethia has to his credit fifteen collections of poems in Hindi, ten in Rajasthani and one in Urdu. "Nirgranth", which has also been published in Bengali, has been hailed by leading poets of India.

Venkataramiah, Justice E.S.

★ Justice E.S. Venkataramiah has been appointed as the nineteenth Chief Justice of India. He will have a short tenure of six months as the Chief Justice, as he will attain the age of 65 on December 18, 1989.

Justice Venkataramiah was born on December 18, 1924. He belongs to Karnataka. In 1943 he completed B.A. with distinction winning two gold medals. He completed his law in 1945.

He joined the bar in 1948 and became the advocate general of Mysore in March 1970 and later appointed an additional judge of the Karnataka High Court. He was elevated to the Supreme Court on March 8, 1979.

PLACES

Calcutta

★ Calcutta celebrates its tercentenary on August 24, 1990. The tercentenary bonanza was inaugurated by Chief Minister of West Bengal, Mr Jyoti Basu, on Independence Day, by unfurling the tricolour.

Calcutta came to be a settlement

when on August 24, 1690 a British Merchant, Bob Charnok pitched his tent on the banks of the river Hooghly at Kalikata village. The village, as he noted in his diary, was 'found in a deplorable condition'.

However, there is a dispute between the historians over whether August 24, 1690 could be accepted as the day and year respectively when Calcutta started its March. The Independence day was selected to start the celebrations to avoid any controversy.

Namibia

★ On April 1, 1989 the historic transition to independence started in Namibia ending a 74-year South African control over the country.

The process of independence started with the tripartite agreement between Angola, Cuba and South Africa which was signed in December 1988 in New York.

South Africa has ruled South West Africa, as Namibia was called, ever since the League of Nations mandate in 1920. Before this it was a German colony. After World War II, it ignored repeated World Court rulings that it was governing the country illegally.

Namibia has vast reserves of diamonds, uranium and host of base and precious minerals. Mining, agriculture and fishing account for 40 per cent of the GDP, 90 per cent of exports by value and lion's share of internally generated revenues.

The population is 1.3 million. Out of this 80,000 are whites and rest blacks. The major part of the economy is controlled by the white minority.

Tiananmen Square

★ Tiananmen Square has been the centre stage of Chinese politics for more than three centuries. The Chinese government had ordered a military crack down on June 5, 1989 on students from all over China, who had been occupying the Square to protest against corruption and demand more freedom and political reform, resulting in the death of more than 3000 people.

Tiananmen Square is situated at the heart of Beijing, the capital of China. It was once a part of the

forbidden ground around the imperial palace. It is also called the Gate of Heavenly Peace. It is bound in all sides by monuments of historical heritage.

Tiananmen was built in 1420. The Ming dynasty gave it the daunting political presence. Then it was called Chentianmen-gate for receiving orders from heaven. In 1949 Mao proclaimed the founding of the People's Republic of China from here. Since then it came to symbolise both Beijing and China.

Tiananmen then became the central motif in the national emblem of the People's Republic of China.

PROJECTS

National Aluminium Company

★ Prime Minister dedicated NALCO Alumina, Aluminium complex of National Aluminium Company, to the nation on June 20, 1989. The foundation stone of the gigantic project was laid by former Prime Minister Mrs Indira Gandhi in March 1981 at Damangudrin Orissa.

The National Aluminium Company Limited (NALCO) was established in 1981 to implement the project which is one of the biggest of its kind in Asia. It started with mining of Bauxite, the main ore used in the production of aluminium. The work scope was gradually extended to production of aluminium ingot and finished products.

The major facilities included in the project are a Mine to raise 2.4 million tonnes of Bauxite per year, an Alumina plant to produce 800,000 tonnes of calcined Alumina per year, an Aluminium plant to produce 218,000 tonnes of Aluminium metal per year, a captive power plant with an installed capacity of 600 MW and port facilities to enable export of Alumina and import of caustic soda.

The project has moved India from a position of shortage in aluminium metal to a position of self-sufficiency. It has not only stopped the outflow of precious foreign exchange but has also become a foreign exchange earner.

Sanjay Vidyut Project becomes operational

★ Asia's first fully underground 120

megawatt Sanjay Vidyut (Hydel) Project has been commissioned. The project is located near Bhaba Nagar in Kinnaur district of Himachal Pradesh. It harnesses the water of the Bhaba Khud, a tributary of Satluj river. The project costed Rs 167 crore.

The prestigious project is a unique engineering feat in Asia. Even the switchboard, power house and penstocks are studded into the Himalayan mountain.

The project is situated at an altitude of 8000 feet. The temperature drops to minus 15°C during winters.

Nathpa-Jhakari project foundation stone laid

★ Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi laid the foundation stone of 1500 MW Nathpa-Jhakari project on April 14, 1989. The project is located on River Satluj and is the biggest hydel power project of India.

The project will be one-and-a-half time larger than Bhakra complex. It will stretch over a length of nearly 40 km from Nathpa dam site in tribal district of Kinnaur to Jhakari power house in Shimla district.

The project is likely to be completed in seven years and will cost approximately Rs 2266.36 crore. The World Bank has sanctioned Rs 656 crore for the project. This is the first hydel project to be jointly executed by the Centre and State government.

Korba—largest power station

★ With the commissioning of an additional 500 MW unit at the Korba thermal power station, on March 23, 1989, the power station has become the largest power station of India. The plant is located on the West bank of the Hardeo river near Korba in Bilaspur district of Madhya Pradesh. The project is the second in the series of Super thermal power stations being set up by the National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC).

The gigantic complex has been set-up in two stages. In the first stage three units of 200 MW were set up. In the second stage three units of 500 MW have been set. With the commissioning of the last 500 MW unit the plant has achieved its ultimate capacity of 2,100 MW. The 500

MW generators have been provided by BHEL.

The whole project has costed Rs 1875 crore. World Bank had assisted to the tune of US \$ 600 million.

Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Gujarat and Goa will benefit from the project.

Nhava Sheva port commissioned

★ Nhava Sheva port, India's 12th major port, was commissioned by Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi on May 26, 1989. The port has been named after Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru. The port is situated in the eastern shore of Bombay harbour.

In the hi-tech port most of the operations are controlled by computers. It can handle third generation container vessels and bulk vessels of 70,000 DWT. It has six berths including three earmarked for containers.

Talcher Super Thermal Power Project

★ On June 3, 1989 Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi laid the foundation of 3000 MW super thermal power project of National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) at Kaniha near Talcher in Orissa.

The first phase of plant of 1000 MW installed capacity is expected to be commissioned by 1994-95. It will cost Rs 1,480.85 crore. The World Bank will give assistance of Rs 400 crore.

This is the ninth unit of NTPC and the largest in the country. In the eastern region NTPC has commissioned two units in Farakka (1,600 MW), West Bengal and Kalagaon (840 MW), Bihar.

SPACE RESEARCH

Voyager 2—The last picture show

★ On August 26, 1989, Voyager 2 space probe began its journey to nowhere after sending the final photographs of Neptune and its satellites.

The spacecraft, which had photographed four planets and their moons during a 12-year odyssey, flew over the cloud tops and haze of the stormy planet Neptune and its moon Triton before heading for the far reaches of space. It reached Neptune after traversing an arc-

shaped 7.2 billion km path. It trekked past four planets and 56 moons.

It encountered Jupiter in 1979, Saturn in 1981 and Uranus in 1986.

Voyager has sent back to earth images of Neptune never seen by man before.

The 12-year grand tour was possible due to a planetary alignment that occurs only once in 176 years. After spending most of its fuel in leaving earth fast enough to reach Jupiter, the spacecraft was hurled towards Saturn by the Jovian gravitational field. Saturn and Uranus, in turn provided "gravity assists" that sent Voyager to Neptune.

Rendezvous with Neptune: The Voyager probe skimmed 4,905 km above Neptune's icy north pole cloud on August 25, 1989—the closest of its planetary encounters—after being accelerated by Neptune's gravity to a speed of 98,400 km per hour.

Five hours after the rendezvous with Neptune, the satellite made its closest pass by the moon Triton.

Voyager 2 has revealed new details of giant storms, rapidly moving white clouds and intense radio emissions confirming the existence of a magnetic field.

The biggest storm appears as a huge dark spot in Neptune's southern hemisphere, similar to Jupiter's great red spot. The area covered by the storm is as big as earth.

The Voyager spacecraft has also revealed that the planet has a halo of five rings of orbiting rubble. It has shattered previous theories, based on ground observations, that Neptune had only partial arcs and no complete rings.

The space probe has also sent interesting information about one of Neptune's satellites—Triton. The pictures provide with abundant evidence of ice volcanism. Ice volcanoes are those that spew frozen natural gas or other ice-like substance rather than molten rock.

Voyager has also discovered six moons in addition to Nereid and Triton, which were first detected from earth.

Neptune is the fourth largest

planet of the solar system, about four times as big as the earth. It is 4,500 million km away from sun. Currently it is the farthest planet from the sun, replacing Pluto, whose elongated orbit moved it closer to the sun in 1979 and will move it farther away than Neptune in 1998.

Atlantis launches Galileo

★ On October 18, 1989 Atlantis space shuttle launched the \$ 1.5 billion plutonium-powered probe—Galileo. The ultimate destination of the space probe is Jupiter.

After the launch, its long, looping trajectory will sling it twice around earth. That will make Galileo the first spacecraft to approach the earth from inter-planetary space. During its journey around the earth the probe will make observations concerning the greenhouse affect and the Antarctic ozone hole.

It will also film, what scientists are calling, the earth movie, which has been proposed by astronomer and writer Carl Sagan of Cornell University.

It will also use its state-of-the-art instruments to map the atmosphere for methane, carbon dioxide and other gases responsible for global warming.

Galileo will be returning to earth only to pick up a boost in speed from the earth's gravity as it begins its six-year journey. After its launch, Galileo will get a gravity push by passing around Venus, pick-up more speed with the two passes by earth and then shoot towards Jupiter, for its primary mission to explore Jupiter's moons and despatch a probe into the atmosphere of the planet.

World's largest satellite in orbit

★ A European Ariane 44-L rocket blasted off on October 28, 1989 and placed the world's largest telecommunications satellite—Intelsat VI—into orbit.

The first of the new generation of five satellites planned to be launched, Intelsat VI weighs 4.3 tons and measures 11.8 metres by 3.6 metres.

With 24,000 simultaneous, two-way telephone circuits and three colour television channels, It will relay telephone, television, fax, telex and data transmissions. It is expected

to be in service for atleast 13 years.

Magellan launched

★ A robot space craft to probe planet Venus was launched on May 4, 1989 by the US space shuttle Atlantis.

The \$ 550 million robot space-craft is called Magellan. It is the first launch by USA after an eleven-year interruption in its inter-planetary flight programme.

On its journey to Venus Magellan will circle the sun 1.5 times and travel 806 miles before reaching Venus in August 1990.

It is the first space probe to be launched from a space shuttle.

It will map upto 90 per cent of cloud-veiled surface of Venus with a high resolution radar system. It is expected to produce images ten times sharper than any previous pictures of the planet.

Discovery—28th shuttle mission

★ The American space shuttle Discovery landed on March 18, 1989 ending a five-day mission. It was the 28th shuttle flight and the third since the shuttle Challenger exploded on January 28, 1986, killing all seven astronauts.

The major task of the mission was putting into orbit a \$ 100 million Tracking and Data Relay Satellite (TDRS). It was the third satellite of its kind to be put into orbit. This completed NASA's vital shuttle communications system which allows near-constant communication between shuttles and ground controllers. The system also shortens what used to be a 15-minute blackout during the heat of re-entry to about three minutes.

During the flight the astronauts filmed the regions of Africa, South America and the US for using a 70 MW large format cameras. The film will be used to produce a large screen colour motion picture *The Fragile Earth*. The film is about the fast deteriorating environment of Earth.

MISCELLANY

Hungary drops 'People'

★ Hungary will no longer be called a people's republic but will only be a republic with a president instead of a presidential council.

As a part of the new distribution of power, it will also get two entirely new independent institutions—a constitutional court and a public accounting service.

These are the main changes to be introduced under the draft amendments to the 1949 constitution of Hungary.

Power transmission corporation approved

★ The Union government has approved the setting up of the National Power Transmission Corporation (NPTC) to ensure an integrated effort to meet the transmission needs of the power sector in the country.

The NPTC proposal envisages upgradation of transmission technology and reducing transmission as well as distribution losses which are at present alarmingly high.

One of the main objectives for setting up of an independent organisation to look after the crucial network of power supply is to ensure better integrated grid operations and accelerate the process of formation of national power grid.

Highways Authority comes into being

★ The Union Ministry of Surface Transport has constituted the National Highways Authority of India in pursuance of the bill in this connection passed by the Parliament in 1988 winter session.

Initially, the Director General of the roads, would head the National Highways Authority of India. When fully operational it would have five full time and four part time members in addition to the Chairman.

The Authority's main task would be to take over in a phased manner the construction, maintenance and operation of the national highways. So far the maintenance of the roads was done by the State PWDs.

The State Governments which were looking after the maintenance of the national highways properly would be allowed to continue doing the job. However, in the case of the State Governments ill-maintaining their segments of the national highways, the Authority would have the option to entrust the job to other agencies.

Round-up of Objective-Type Questions on General Awareness

1. Which is true about Lok Sabha?

- (a) It is a permanent body
- (b) It consists of not more than 500 members elected directly
- (c) It consists of not more than 525 members elected directly from the States and 20 members to represent the Union Territories as Parliament by law provides
- (d) It consists of 300 members elected directly from the States and Union Territories

2. Which Article empowers the Indian Parliament to amend the Constitution?

- (a) 343
- (b) 368
- (c) 378
- (d) 358

3. Which of the following is not the function of the Reserve Bank of India?

- (a) Regulating cash and credit system of India
- (b) Foreign Exchange Reserve is kept by the RBI
- (c) Issue of one rupee coins and notes
- (d) Formulation of the monetary policy

4. A team of men selected by the party in opposition to take over the different portfolios in case the party is able to wrest power is known as:

- (a) Inner Cabinet
- (b) Shadow Cabinet
- (c) Caucus
- (d) Privatisation

5. The principle of non-interference of government in economic affairs which then correlates with the government:

- (a) Capitalism

- (b) Laissez-faire
- (c) Monopsony
- (d) Free Market

6. The right to property in India is a:

- (a) moral right
- (b) legal right
- (c) fundamental right
- (d) Indian Constitution does not provide for it

7. In which year was the first amendment made in the Indian Constitution?

- (a) 1947
- (b) 1948
- (c) 1950
- (d) 1951

8. The Lok Sabha secretariate comes under the control of:

- (a) Ministry of Home Affairs
- (b) Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs
- (c) President
- (d) Speaker of the Lok Sabha

9. State-Centre finance relations are looked after by:

- (a) Finance Commission
- (b) Sarkaria Commission
- (c) National Development Council
- (d) Ministry of Home Affairs

10. A party having 36 members will avoid disqualification under the provisions of the Anti-defection law if the number of members crossing the floor is at least:

- (a) 12
- (b) 18
- (c) 24
- (d) 36

11. The money from the consolidated fund of India:

- (a) can be used by the Parliament at any time
- (b) can be regulated by law made by the Parliament and until provision in that behalf is so made, shall be regulated by rules made

by the President

- (c) can be used by the Prime Minister

- (d) None of these

12. The Speaker of the State legislature assembly gives his resignation to:

- (a) Governor of State
- (b) Chief Minister of State
- (c) Deputy Speaker
- (d) Assembly

13. Which Article of the Indian Constitution confers special status to Jammu & Kashmir?

- (a) 368
- (b) 370
- (c) 125
- (d) 270

14. Parliament's expenditure is controlled by:

- (a) President of India
- (b) Finance Commission
- (c) National Development Council
- (d) Comptroller and Auditor General

15. The International Court of Justice at Hague was established in the year:

- (a) 1946
- (b) 1947
- (c) 1948
- (d) 1950

16. What is the complete name of the World Bank?

- (a) International Bank for Reconstruction and Development
- (b) International Monetary Fund
- (c) International Finance Corporation
- (d) International Development Authority

17. Young Bengal movement was started by:

- (a) S.N. Banerji
- (b) Raja Ram Mohun Roy
- (c) Rabindranath Tagore

- (d) Henry Vivian Louis De-rozia
18. 'Servants of India' society was founded by:
- Annie Besant
 - Gokhale
 - Tilak
 - Bhandarkar
19. Sharda Act deals with:
- widow remarriage
 - child marriage
 - intercaste marriage
 - polygamy
20. Indian Railways and Postal services in India were started during the reign of:
- Lord Rippon
 - Lord Cornwallis
 - Lord Dalhousie
 - Lord Canning
21. Which of the following is not true about the Gandhara school of art?
- it was the synthesis of Indo-Greek style
 - its subjects are drawn from Buddha legend
 - it was patronised by Kushans
 - it depicted humans realistically and in good proportions
22. Which one of the following is a feature of Jainism but not of Buddhism?
- belief in Karma
 - rejection of yajnas
 - importance of fasting
 - ahimsa
23. One of the main reasons for urban centres to develop along the Ganges plain during the later Aryan period was:
- increasing trade with foreign countries
 - increase in agriculture due to introduction of iron implements
 - growth of industry
 - None of these
24. Who put forth the idea of Swaraj for the first time from the platform of the Congress?
- Bal Gangadhar Tilak
 - Dadabhai Naoroji
 - C.R. Das
 - J.L. Nehru
25. The setting-up of the Constituent Assembly of India was recom-

- mended under:
- Govt of India Act 1935
 - Stanford Cripps Act 1942
 - Mountbatten Plan
 - Cabinet Mission Plan
26. The major difference between moderates and extremists, in the Congress party in 1907, was regarding:
- Satyagraha
 - Swaraj
 - education
 - boycott
27. Rajkat Satyagraha by Gandhiji was against:
- Calcutta violence
 - Princely States
 - British rule
 - Use of foreign goods
28. A war-like tribe that was driven out by the Chinese and came to India in the 1st century A.D. was called:
- Kushan
 - Rajput
 - Chalukya
 - Kurd
29. In which Indian State is the Khajuraho temple situated?
- Rajasthan
 - Maharashtra
 - Madhya Pradesh
 - Orissa
30. The provision for a separate electorate for Hindus and Muslims was made in:
- Minto Morley reforms
 - Montague Chelmsford reforms
 - Govt of India Act 1935
 - None of these
31. Mahabharat was originally known as:
- Jayahita
 - Rajtarangani
 - Brihakattha
 - Kathasaritsagar
32. Ashoka edicts are found in which of the following languages?
- Sanskrit
 - Prakrit
 - Kharoshti
 - Magadhi
33. During whose reign was English introduced as medium of instruction in India?
- Lord Dalhousie
 - Lord Chelmsford

- (c) Lord Macaulay
(d) Lord Mountbatten
34. Who was the founder of the Bahmani Kingdom?
- Mohammad Tughlak
 - Hari Har
 - Ram Raja
 - Alauddin Hasan
35. The Chalukya dynasty was founded by Chulik, the barbarian Gujar chieftain. The greatest of the Chalukyas was Pulakesin II. He was a contemporary of:
- Chandragupta Maurya
 - Rajaraja I
 - Prithvi Raj Chauhan
 - Harsha Vardhan
36. According to authoritative historical accounts, Emperor Ashoka became a convert to Buddhism after the battle of:
- Talikota
 - Plassey
 - Kalinga
 - Buxar
37. Lord Dalhousie (1848-56) laid it down as a principle that on the death of a ruling prince without direct descendants, the British Government should refuse to sanction the adoption of an heir and declare the dominions of deceased as "lapsed to the sovereign power by total failure of heirs natural". This is known as:
- Permanent Settlement of Bengal
 - Pitt's India Act
 - The Regulating Act
 - Doctrine of lapse
38. In which century did Krishna Deva Raya live?
- 14th
 - 15th
 - 16th
 - 17th
39. Buland Darwaza was built by:
- Shahjahan
 - Aurangzeb
 - Akbar
 - Jahangir
 - None of these
40. Who among the following is associated with Permanent Settlement of Bengal?
- Lord Dalhousie
 - Lord Curzon
 - Lord Cornwallis
 - William Bentinck

41. Sarvodaya and Bhoodan movement was started by:
 - (a) Vinoba Bhave
 - (b) Raja Ram Mohan Roy
 - (c) Vivekananda
 - (d) Mahatma Gandhi
42. The struggle for freedom of India entered a decisive phase in 1945-46. Two important events during this period completely turned the scale against the British Government. What were these events?
 - (a) INA Trial and Naval mutiny
 - (b) INA Trial and Quit India Movement
 - (c) Gandhiji's fast and Quit India Movement
 - (d) Naval Mutiny and Dandi March
43. Name the largest continent in the world?
 - (a) Africa
 - (b) Asia
 - (c) North America
 - (d) Antarctica
44. A line on a map joining places having equal atmospheric pressure is called:
 - (a) Isotherm
 - (b) Isobar
 - (c) Isograph
 - (d) Isohel
45. What type of climate is best for production of spices?
 - (a) cold
 - (b) hot, moist and even
 - (c) cold and moist
 - (d) hot and dry
46. The mountain range which forms the Western boundary of the Indian sub-continent is called:
 - (a) Pirpanjal
 - (b) Satpura
 - (c) Aravali
 - (d) Hindukush
47. What is the main source of irrigation in Southern India?
 - (a) tank
 - (b) well
 - (c) tubewell
 - (d) river
48. Winds which blow from about 40 degrees North to the Arctic Circle and from about 35 degrees South to the Antarctic circle, throughout the year, are called:
 - (a) Trade winds
 - (b) Westerlies
 - (c) Polar winds
 - (d) Anti-polar winds
49. The Equatorial type climate in which temperature remains high all the year round but does not vary much produces:
 - (a) hot, wet forests
 - (b) hot, dry forests
 - (c) grasslands
 - (d) deserts
50. Which country is known as *The Land of Thousand Lakes*?
 - (a) Bhutan
 - (b) Norway
 - (c) Canada
 - (d) Finland
51. What is common between Kalahari, Gobi, Sahara and Thar?
 - (a) They are mountains
 - (b) They are rivers
 - (c) They are deserts
 - (d) They are glaciers
52. The largest saffron producing State of India is:
 - (a) Karnataka
 - (b) Bihar
 - (c) Jammu & Kashmir
 - (d) Kerala
53. Which of the following is not a Rabi crop?
 - (a) wheat
 - (b) barley
 - (c) rice
 - (d) linseed
54. Which one of the following is the largest planet?
 - (a) Mars
 - (b) Jupiter
 - (c) Saturn
 - (d) Pluto
55. A satellite gets energy from:
 - (a) outside of space
 - (b) dry cells which are placed inside the satellite
 - (c) gravitational force
 - (d) None of the above
56. Black holes are:
 - (a) stars which emit radiation outside the visible range
 - (b) stars with very strong gravitational force
 - (c) stars with huge craters on the surface
57. Sal forests in India are found in:
 - (a) Western Ghats
 - (b) Dehradun Valley
 - (c) Nilgiris
 - (d) Satpuras
58. Pressure zones on the earth are created due to:
 - (a) rotation of the earth
 - (b) movement of winds
 - (c) differential heating of the earth's surface by the sun
 - (d) revolution of the earth
59. The delta formed by the Brahmaputra is of which type?
 - (a) primary type
 - (b) estuarine type
 - (c) bird's foot type
 - (d) arcuate type
60. The largest producer of silver in the world is:
 - (a) USA
 - (b) Mexico
 - (c) USSR
 - (d) South Africa
61. Which one of the following is not washed by a cold ocean current?
 - (a) South West Africa
 - (b) West Australia
 - (c) South East Australia
 - (d) California
62. The Aravalli range is bisected by the river system:
 - (a) Ghagra & Saraswati
 - (b) Betwa & Son
 - (c) Narmada & Tapti
 - (d) Luni & Manas
63. Which of the following is a typical example of block mountains?
 - (a) Alps
 - (b) Himalayas
 - (c) Vosges
 - (d) Appalachians
64. Savanna grasslands are situated in:
 - (a) Central Asia
 - (b) North America
 - (c) Europe
 - (d) Australia
65. Which of the following places has the most uniform climate throughout the year?
 - (a) Delhi
 - (b) Jaipur
 - (c) Bombay
 - (d) Trivandrum
66. Which State is at the eastern-most part of India?
 - (a) Arunachal Pradesh
 - (b) Assam
 - (c) Nagaland
 - (d) Manipur
67. A part of which of these States is situated to the north of the

Himalayas?

- (a) Jammu & Kashmir
- (b) Sikkim
- (c) Himachal Pradesh
- (d) Arunachal Pradesh

68. To a spaceman in orbit the sky would appear:

- (a) blue
- (b) green
- (c) violet
- (d) black

69. The lowest portion of the atmosphere of the earth is called:

- (a) Ionosphere
- (b) Troposphere
- (c) Stratosphere
- (d) Mesosphere

70. Which country is the world's largest producer of diamonds?

- (a) Zaire
- (b) S. Africa
- (c) India
- (d) Israel

71. A strip of land that connects the mainland with a Peninsula is called:

- (a) Gulf
- (b) Strait
- (c) Isthmus
- (d) Lagoon

72. What is the importance of the Ozone layer?

- (a) it shields the life on earth from ultra-violet rays of sun
- (b) it shields the plants from radiation
- (c) it shields the life on earth from cosmic bombardment.
- (d) it acts as a shield to protect the earth from meteorites.

73. Which of the following Institutes deals with credit to Agriculture and Rural Development?

- (a) IDBI
- (b) NABARD
- (c) ICICI
- (d) ICAR
- (e) RBI

74. India's largest radio telescope is being set-up at:

- (a) Khodad
- (b) Sriharikota
- (c) Ootacamund
- (d) Gulmarg

75. Which of the following is the smallest country (areawise) in the world?

- (a) Japan
- (b) Vatican City State
- (c) Grenada
- (d) Cuba

76. Name the largest city situated on river Gomti?

- (a) Agra
- (b) Meerut
- (c) Lucknow
- (d) Kanpur
- (e) None of these

77. Name the first Indian scientific satellite to go into orbit?

- (a) Aryabhata
- (b) Rohini
- (c) INSAT-1A
- (d) Bhaskara-I
- (e) None of these

78. What is Dakshin Gangotri?

- (a) The spot where the Cauvery originates
- (b) The rocket launching centre in Kerala
- (c) India's first permanent Research Station in Antarctica
- (d) The place from which the Peshwas used to distribute 'dakshina'.
- (e) None of these

79. With which of the following is Digboi (Assam) associated?

- (a) Oil
- (b) Bodo agitation
- (c) Hydel power project
- (d) Rail terminus

80. Who created the famous character Sancho Panza?

- (a) Shakespeare
- (b) Charles Dickens
- (c) Thomas Hardy
- (d) Cervantes Saavedra

81. Chemical name of aspirin is:

- (a) acetylsalicylic acid
- (b) salicylacetic acid
- (c) acetylbenzoic acid
- (d) benzoylsalicylate

82. The largest land holding in India is:

- (a) basic holding
- (b) economic holding
- (c) family holding
- (d) co-operative holding

83. Who among the following is likely to benefit by inflation?

- (a) creditors
- (b) debtors
- (c) workers
- (d) government

84. 'Sulabh International' is an organisation providing:

- (a) health services to rural areas
- (b) good sanitation at cheap rates
- (c) low cost accommodation
- (d) None of these

85. What is the name of India's surface to surface missile which was successfully tested in May 1989?

- (a) Agni
- (b) Rohini
- (c) Prithvi
- (d) MIG

86. The dates of the lunar calendar (or the unified Indian National Calendar) permanently correspond with the Gregorian Calendar—Chaitra 1 falling on:

- (a) March 21 (March 22 in case of leap year)
- (b) September 15/16
- (c) July 21/22
- (d) December 15/16

87. The term *Perestroika* refers to which country?

- (a) Czechoslovakia
- (b) West Germany
- (c) Hungary
- (d) USSR

88. Name the instrument that is used to measure the purity of milk?

- (a) Pyrometer
- (b) Hydrometer
- (c) Lactometer
- (d) Odometer

89. With which industry is Gwalior associated?

- (a) Oil
- (b) Steel
- (c) Pottery
- (d) Cement

90. 'Todas' are the tribe living in:

- (a) Nilgins
- (b) Chhota Nagpur
- (c) Himalayan region
- (d) Aravali Hills

91. The ancient tribes of Andamans which live in Andaman district are of which origin?

- (a) Negrito
- (b) Mongoloid
- (c) Australoid
- (d) Caucasian

92. Nautanki is a dance style popular in:

- (a) Punjab

- (b) Uttar Pradesh
(c) Rajasthan
(d) Haryana
93. The theory of classical music is discussed in:
(a) Samaveda
(b) Yajurveda
(c) Rigveda
(d) Atharvaveda
94. Lalit Kala Academy is associated with:
(a) dance
(b) music
(c) painting, sculpture, architecture and applied arts
(d) drama
95. Kathakali is a classical dance style of:
(a) Tamil Nadu
(b) Kerala
(c) Orissa
(d) Andhra Pradesh
96. The following statements have been made about zero-based budgeting:
(i) unlimited deficit financing
(ii) making a budget independent of historical record
(iii) making a budget right from scratch
The true statements are
(a) (i), (ii) & (iii)
(b) (ii) & (iii)
(c) (i) & (iii)
(d) (i) & (ii)
97. Home Loan Account System is financed by:
(a) Unit Trust of India
(b) General Insurance Corporation
(c) National Housing Bank
(d) None of these
98. Energy possessed by the body by virtue of its motion is called:
(a) Heat energy
(b) Nuclear energy
(c) Kinetic energy
(d) Potential energy
99. Which three primary colours are used in a colour TV?
(a) Green-Yellow-Blue
(b) Yellow-Blue-Red
(c) Red-Green-Yellow
(d) Green-Blue-Red
100. At what temperature are readings in both the Centigrade and Fahrenheit thermometers exactly the same?
(a) -40°C

- (b) -30°C
(c) -20°C
(d) 0°C
101. The ratio of the speed of a fluid or a body to the local speed of sound is called:
(a) Mach number
(b) Macrocyclic
(c) Magellanic
(d) Mascon
102. Which of the following cannot travel in vacuum?
(a) light
(b) sound
(c) heat
(d) radio-wave
103. In the spectrum of light, which colour is next to the red colour?
(a) blue
(b) orange
(c) violet
(d) indigo
104. Which of the following is not an alloy?
(a) brass
(b) bronze
(c) steel
(d) zinc
105. Very short time periods are measured by:
(a) pulsars
(b) atomic clock
(c) electrons
(d) quartz crystals
106. The fertility of the soil can be improved by:
(a) adding more dead earthworms
(b) removing living earthworms
(c) removing dead earthworms
(d) adding living earthworms
107. The guinea pig used in experimental work is a:
(a) pig reared under special conditions
(b) genetically superior breed of pig
(c) stocky tailless rodent
(d) None of these
108. The brilliant red colours in fire crackers are due to the compounds of:
(a) barium
(b) sodium
(c) manganese
(d) strontium

109. There are many anti-bacterial drugs but very few anti-viral drugs because:

- (a) bacteria are intra-cellular
(b) virus does not reproduce by binary fission
(c) virus are much smaller than bacteria
(d) None of these

110. The process of conversion by action of bacteria, of nitrogen compounds from animal and plant waste and decay, into nitrates in the soil is called:

- (a) Nitrification
(b) Denitrification
(c) Ammonification
(d) Saltification

111. Cytology is the science dealing with:

- (a) secret writing
(b) cells
(c) soil less cultivation
(d) study of insects

112. Trachoma is a disease of:

- (a) liver
(b) eyes
(c) lungs
(d) throat

ANSWERS

- | | | | |
|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| 1. (c) | 2. (b) | 3. (d) | 4. (b) |
| 5. (b) | 6. (b) | 7. (e) | 8. (b) |
| 9. (a) | 10. (a) | 11. (b) | 12. (c) |
| 13. (b) | 14. (d) | 15. (a) | 16. (a) |
| 17. (d) | 18. (b) | 19. (b) | 20. (c) |
| 21. (a) | 22. (c) | 23. (b) | 24. (b) |
| 25. (d) | 26. (b) | 27. (c) | 28. (a) |
| 29. (c) | 30. (a) | 31. (a) | 32. (d) |
| 33. (c) | 34. (d) | 35. (d) | 36. (c) |
| 37. (d) | 38. (c) | 39. (c) | 40. (c) |
| 41. (a) | 42. (a) | 43. (b) | 44. (b) |
| 45. (b) | 46. (d) | 47. (a) | 48. (b) |
| 49. (a) | 50. (d) | 51. (c) | 52. (c) |
| 53. (c) | 54. (b) | 55. (c) | 56. (b) |
| 57. (d) | 58. (c) | 59. (d) | 60. (b) |
| 61. (c) | 62. (d) | 63. (c) | 64. (d) |
| 65. (d) | 66. (a) | 67. (a) | 68. (d) |
| 69. (b) | 70. (a) | 71. (c) | 72. (a) |
| 73. (b) | 74. (a) | 75. (b) | 76. (c) |
| 77. (a) | 78. (c) | 79. (a) | 80. (d) |
| 81. (a) | 82. (c) | 83. (b) | 84. (b) |
| 85. (a) | 86. (a) | 87. (d) | 88. (c) |
| 89. (c) | 90. (a) | 91. (a) | 92. (b) |
| 93. (a) | 94. (c) | 95. (b) | 96. (a) |
| 97. (c) | 98. (c) | 99. (b) | 100. (a) |
| 101. (a) | 102. (b) | 103. (b) | |
| 104. (d) | 105. (d) | 106. (d) | |
| 107. (c) | 108. (d) | 109. (b) | |
| 110. (a) | 111. (b) | 112. (b) | |

RESUME OF THE EXAMINER'S GUESS QUESTIONS

By which percentage did the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) and National Income rise during 1987-88?

GDP rose by 3.6 per cent and National Income by 3.4 per cent.

GDP at a factor cost at constant prices (1980-81) is estimated at Rs 1,70,363 crore as against Rs 1,64,441 crore in 1986-87.

At current prices the GDP is estimated at Rs 2,93,306 crore as against Rs 2,60,680 crore in 1986-87.

At constant prices the total National Income is estimated at Rs 1,50,573 crore as against Rs 1,45,675 crore in 1986-87. At current prices the national income in 1987-88 is estimated at Rs 2,57,813 crore as compared to Rs 2,29,010 crore in 1986-87.

As per the latest estimates, what was the total foodgrain production of India, during 1987-88?

138 million tonne. The target for the year was 160 million tonne.

What amount of total investment will be made in the public sector as envisaged in the 1989-90 annual plan?

Rs 25,007 crore. The public sector would provide for Rs 17,482 crore and balance would come as budget support—equity and loans.

What amount of petroleum products were imported by India in 1988-89?

India imported 6.38 million tonnes of petroleum products including LPG during 1988-89 as compared to the imports of 3.93 million tonnes in 1987-88.

How much worth of gems and jewellery have been exported by India in 1988-89?

Rs 4553.53 crore worth of gems and jewellery has been exported by India in 1988-89. This is a growth of 71.67 per cent as compared to that in 1987-88. The total export in 1987-88

was Rs 2652.56 crore.

The target set for 1988-89 was Rs 4103.75 crore.

In the export of diamonds India holds number one position.

What was the total foreign investment in 1988?

Rs 2397.5 million. This was a 50 per cent increase over the investment in 1987.

The prominent foreign investors were USA, Federal Republic of Germany, Italy, Japan, UK and France.

What was the growth rate of India's exports in 1988-89?

29 per cent in rupee terms and 15.5 per cent in dollar terms. The total exports were to the tune of Rs 20,281 crore. The target set was Rs 18,795 crore. Imports during 1988-89 are provisionally estimated at Rs 27,693 crore.

The trade deficit in 1988-89 was Rs 7,412 crore.

Which year is the base year of the new series of wholesale price index (WPI) introduced from July 1989?

1981-82. Previously the base year was 1970-71.

The new series will have a substantially enlarged coverage in terms of number of commodities as also their varieties, grades and markets. As against 360 items and 1295 price quotations in the previous series, the new series has 447 items and 2371 quotations.

What was India's aggregate external debt as on March 31, 1989?

Rs 68,831 crore. The amount of interest disbursed on the outstanding debt, during 1988-89, has been estimated to be Rs 7,698 crore.

What rate of inflation was recorded in 1988-89?

6.6 per cent. In 1987-88 it was 10.6 per cent.

What were the total deposits of

scheduled banks at the end of 1988?

Rs 1,39,440 crore. The net aggregate advances were Rs 80,123 crore.

In 1988-89 the 28 public sector banks are expected to earn profits to the tune of Rs 361.88 crore.

What targets have been set in the 8th five-year plan approach paper?

1. Bring down the percentage of population living below the poverty line to a level of 18-20 per cent from the expected level of 28-30 per cent as at the end of seventh plan.

2. Target employment growth at three per cent per annum, i.e., at a rate faster than the (anticipated) rate of growth in the labour force itself.

3. Explicit attention to the problems of urban employment.

4. An annual per capita foodgrain availability of 195 kg by the terminal year of the 8th plan, as compared to current level of 175 kg.

5. Aim at 12 per cent annual growth in the 'volume' of exports.

6. To achieve a 6 per cent GDP growth rate per annum. To achieve this the public sector outlay would be of the order of Rs 350,000 crore at 1989-90 price level, as compared to the public sector outlay of Rs 180,000 crore in the ongoing 7th plan.

As per the official projections what amount of crude oil will be required to be imported by India during the Eighth plan period (1990-95)?

146.26 million tonnes. This will cost US \$ 18,000 million (over Rs 36,000 crore). The amount has been worked out on the assumption that international prices of oil would go up to US \$ 20 a barrel during the period and on current dollar-rupee exchange rate.

What is the present Nuclear Power generation capacity of India?

1330 MW. It is expected to be

over 10,000 MW by the turn of this century with the installation of a series of 235 MW and 500 MW pressurised heavy water reactor (PHWR) units.

How many Export Processing Zones (EPZs) are there in India?

Seven. These are Kandla Free Trade Zone (KFTZ), Gujarat; Santacruz Electronics Export Processing Zone (SEEPZ), Bombay; Cochine Export Processing Zone (CEPZ), Kerala; Madras Export Processing Zone (MEPZ), Tamil Nadu; Falta Export Processing Zone (FEPZ); NOIDA Export Processing Zone (NEPZ) near Delhi in Uttar Pradesh; and Vizag Export Processing Zone (VEPZ), Andhra Pradesh.

Name the three biggest receivers of loan, in 1989, from the World Bank?

India (\$ 3.04 billion), Indonesia (\$ 1.64 billion) and China (\$ 1.35 billion).

What amount was given as loan by the World Bank, in 1989?

\$ 21.36 billion. Developing countries in Asia totalled \$ 7.83 billion, constituting 36 per cent of the total worldwide lending.

In 1988 which country was the largest debtor of the world?

USA. In 1988 the total debt was \$ 532.5 billion. Britain, with \$ 101.9 billion in direct investment in the US, remains the single largest investor and is followed by Japan with \$ 53.4 billion investment.

As per the latest World Bank estimates, what was the Third World debt at the end of 1988?

1.3 trillion dollars—roughly 50 per cent of the combined Gross National Product. This is a three per cent increase over 1987.

What is Brady Plan?

It is a plan put forward by US Treasury Secretary, Nicholas Brady, to reduce the debt burden of Latin American countries.

It envisages joint contribution of about \$ 425 billion by the IMF and the World Bank for debt and debt service reduction over three years with additional money coming from Japan.

India, China, Pakistan and other developing countries have rejected the plan. They insist on extending the benefits uniformly to all the developing countries.

The plan envisages a strategy that would benefit the countries not prudent enough to manage their economies thus putting a disadvantage, those like India, who had done comparatively well.

As per the figures of 1984-85 how many people in India were living below poverty line?

37 per cent. This figure is expected to come down to 26 per cent in 1989-90. In absolute terms the number of poor persons is expected to fall from 273 million in 1984-85 to 211 million in 1989-90, the bulk of this improvement being in the rural areas.

Where is Asia's first underground hydel-power unit situated?

Near Bhaba Nagar in Kinnaur district of Himachal Pradesh. The project is called Sanjay Vidyut Project and has a capacity of 120 megawatt.

At which place is India's first glazed newsprint factory being set-up?

Algunj in Uttar Pradesh. It is a joint venture of NEPA and the UP Cooperative Sugar Factories Federation.

Name the speaker of the first Lok Sabha of India?

G.V. Mavalankar.

What landmark was achieved by the Indian cinema in December 1988?

Indian cinema celebrated its platinum jubilee in December 1988?

Where is the world's highest petrol pump situated?

Kaza, district headquarters of Spiti in Himachal Pradesh. Kaza is located at 13,500 feet above sea level. The petrol pump has been set up by Indian Oil Corporation.

As per the annual report of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare for 1988-89, what is the average life expectancy of an Indian?

60 years. It was 32 years at the

time of Independence.

Which Indian business family has figured in the Forbes Magazine's list of 198 billionaires in the world?

The Birla family. The list includes the names of industrial houses or families who have a net worth (after debt) of \$ 1 billion or more.

The highest number of 55 billionaires are in the USA followed by Japan with 41, West Germany 20, Canada 9, Saudi Arabia and Taiwan 5 each and Switzerland 4.

Name the Indian Naval vessel which was on round-the-world voyage in 1989?

Samudra.

Name the Indian who has created a world record in static wall sit for three hours?

Madan Singh Verma, a resident of Theog in Himachal Pradesh. He broke the earlier record of one hour 45 minutes. His name has been entered in the Guinness Book of Records.

Name the Indian couple who are undertaking record-breaking around-the-world drive?

Mr Saloo Choudhary and his wife Neena. They plan to drive through 25 countries and six continents, covering 45,000 km in 65 days, on their Contessa Classic car.

Which year will be observed as the year of the SAARC girl child?

1990.

Which day was celebrated as International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking?

June 26.

Which year will be observed as 'Visit India' year?

1991. More than two million foreign tourists are to be wooed to visit India during 1991. This is expected to net additional foreign exchange worth Rs 160 crore.

Name the three Baltic republics of USSR where massive rallies have taken place demanding freedom from USSR?

Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia.

Which city will be the first Indian city to introduce Integrated Services

Digital Network (ISDN)? What is the use of ISDN?

Bangalore. The ISDN is used to receive facsimile, teletext, videotext, electronic mail or data from data bank through a telephone set.

Which Indian city is celebrating its tricentenary in 1990?

Calcutta. It will be 300-year-old on August 24, 1990.

Which Indian State passed a bill on October 3, 1989 to make Urdu the second official language?

Uttar Pradesh.

Name the declaration under which the Commonwealth countries have banned sporting contacts with South Africa?

Gleneagles Declaration.

What is the concept of the SAARC-2000 regional plan?

The concept of the plan is to pool resources of member countries to provide for the basic needs of the people in the region. The concept places emphasis on the human dimension in development planning by focussing attention on meeting basic human needs such as primary health care, literacy and shelter.

Name the nations that comprise G-7?

USA, Canada, Britain, West Germany, Italy and Japan.

Name the four countries that have taken an initiative to arrange a North-South Summit-level dialogue on economic and environmental issues?

India, Egypt, Senegal and Venezuela.

How many countries are member of Commonwealth?

49. Pakistan was re-admitted as 49th member with effect from October 1, 1989. Pakistan had left Commonwealth seventeen years ago when Mr Z.A. Bhutto, then Prime Minister of Pakistan, took the decision to walk out following dispute over the recognition of Bangladesh, formerly East Pakistan.

Name the youngest Chairman of Non-aligned movement?

Dr Janez Dmowski, President of

Yugoslavia.

Name the two Soviet cosmonauts who have broken the record of 326 days of stay in space?

Vladimir Titov and Musa Manarov. They returned to earth on December 21, 1988 after a year's stay aboard the space station MIR.

What is the name of the world's most advanced and most expensive fighter plane that has been built by USA?

B-2 Stealth Bomber.

What name has been given to the proposed high-speed space plane, being developed by USA, which is expected to fly at 25 times the speed of sound?

The Orient Express.

What name has been given to the first asteroid to be discovered by Indian astrophysicists?

Srinivasa Ramanujan.

Name the U.S. Spacecraft that flew by Planet Neptune on August 27, 1989?

Voyager 2.

Name the mascot of the VIIIth Asian Track and Field meet held in New Delhi from November 14, 1989?

Bharati.

Which world famous tower completed 100 years of existence in 1989?

Eiffel Tower in Paris, France. The tower was built by Gustave Eiffel in 1889.

What is the new name of Burma?

Union of Myanma. The name of the capital, Rangoon, has also been changed to Yangon.

Unlike Burma, which denoted the Burman race only, the word Myanma covers all the ethnic races of the country such as Karen, Kachin, Shan and Chin.

Name the first black to be appointed Chairman of the military Joint Chiefs of Staff of USA?

Gen Colin Powell.

Name the first East Bloc country to have a non-communist Prime Minister?

Poland. Solidarity Journalist Tadeusz Mazowiecki has been

appointed Prime Minister.

Name the countries where minimum voting age is 16?

Nicaragua and Brazil. Brazil reduced the voting age to 16 in September 1989.

Which country is the only monarchy in the world in which the king is elected by secret ballot among State rulers?

Malaysia.

What does the term Golden Handshake mean?

Retrenchment compensation offered to workers by a company going into liquidation or wanting to close the unit is termed as Golden Handshake.

What does Section 138 of the Negotiable Instruments Act, introduced by the Banking, Public Financial Institutions and Negotiable Instruments Laws (Amendment) Act 66 of 1988 pertain to?

It makes a drawer of a cheque liable to penalties in case of dishonour of the cheque for insufficiency etc of funds in the account. It provides for imprisonment for a term which may extend to one year, or with fine which may go upto twice the amount of the cheque or both.

This act will be brought into effect from April 1, 1989.

For what purpose was the Kudai Commission of enquiry set-up?

To enquire into misuse and misappropriation of funds by leading voluntary organisations of India.

When was the 'Project Tiger' launched?

April 1, 1973. Under the Project Tiger reserves were identified and looked after to give the Tiger a fair chance of survival. Today there are 17 tiger reserves covering 26,643 sq km area. These are: Bandipur (Karnataka), Corbett (U.P.), Kanha (M.P.), Manas (Assam), Melghat (Maharashtra), Palamau (Bihar), Ranthambhore (Rajasthan), Simlipal (Orissa), Sunderbans (W. Bengal), Indravati (M.P.), Nagarjunasagar (Andhra Pradesh), Namdapha (Arunachal Pradesh), Dudhwa (U.P.) and Kalakad Mundaithurai (T.N.).

Argumentative Questions on Social and Economic Problems

WELFARE STATE—THREAT OR BLESSING?

Q. The modern welfare State is a boon and a blessing to the people, not a threat as some modern social analysts now believe. Do you accept this view? Give arguments For and Against it, with special reference to socio-economic conditions in India.

Ans. During the past many decades, political scientists and social reformers have consistently expounded the theory that the function of the modern State is not only to maintain law and order but also to ensure, or at any rate promote, the welfare of the mass of people it has been chosen to govern. If maintenance of peace and prevention of disorder were the only duties of the State, then we might as well describe it as a "police State." This tell-tale expression has lately acquired a frightening tinge because of the repressive methods, downright cruelty to suspects in police stations and in jail. In what sense has the modern State become a threat to society's welfare?

Arguments For the View

1. The basic concept of the modern State—of the people and for the people—is to promote the welfare of all, especially the weak and highly vulnerable sections. If these classes are neglected and the authorities concentrate on ensuring the happiness of the elite and the affluent sections of society, the State loses all credibility and becomes an instrument of the affluent classes which in every State, including the world's richest and most prosperous—the U.S.A.,—forms the minority.

2. All the laws and policies which a modern democratic government frames and seeks to implement are meant largely for the

masses. Thus the basic commitment of a welfare State is to adopt measures that tend to produce and sustain full employment, or to provide some insurance against unemployment; to coordinate policies in order to strengthen the economy with an eye on social welfare, not to the prosperity of the top few, to provide economic security for the ill, the aged and the dependent; to establish minimum standards of comfort and compensation—in short to strive for decent, civilised existence.

3. Social welfare programmes are especially important for a country such as India in which the majority of the people are illiterate and about 40 per cent of them still live below the poverty line. Therefore the framers of the Indian Constitution made social welfare their basic theme and objective. For example, Article 38 requires the State "to strive to promote the welfare of the people by securing and protecting, as effectively as it may, a social order in which justice, social, economic and political, shall inform all the institutions of national life..."

4. In particular, says the Constitution, the State shall endeavour to minimise the inequalities in income and to eliminate the inequalities in status, opportunities among individuals and groups engaged in different vocations. This is a clear directive for establishing a welfare State which indeed is a boon to all weak sections of society, men, women and children, whose happiness—and even daily bread in countless cases—depends upon the Government's efforts to safeguard their interests.

Arguments Against the View

1. The loud talk of establishing a welfare State discourages individual initiative and also group effort

because of the widespread complacency it encourages. All relatively weak and vulnerable sections of society (notably old people of all categories) know that the State will safeguard their interests, and try to provide them food, employment and shelter of some sort. Their welfare is the Government's primary concern.

2. Since the social welfare schemes, especially for a large country such as India, require massive amounts of money, and this money is derived largely from the affluent people who are required to pay heavy taxes, direct and indirect, these schemes are in effect financed by one section of people for the benefit of the rest. Surely, this is unfair, unjust and amounts to robbing Peter to pay Paul. In many cases the acquisitions of the rich are the result of their hard work, sustained effort, technical skill and ability, talent and devotion to duty. Why should these well-off sections work day and night to feed, clothe and house the millions of lazy, slothful, inefficient and ease-loving masses?

3. The diversion of massive funds belonging to the affluent class for benefiting the others (much of it is wasted or misappropriated) does not represent a case of Santa Claus or Lady Bountiful. There are very few cases of voluntary philanthropy. Every Tom, Dick and Harry turns to the State for help; in fact, the masses in India expect the Government to do everything for them. The popularity and success of a party government is judged by the extent to which it promotes social welfare—of the deserving and the undeserving. The burden of satisfying the demands for food, shelter, decent housing, and attractive prices for farm and factory produce falls on the most productive groups.

4. The only exceptions should be of people who have inherited large property or crores of rupees in cash from their ancestors. But with the disappearance of Rajas and Maharajas, this "super rich" class has vanished. So it is not fair to compel one section to bear the brunt while the beneficiaries contribute very little for the amenities they get.

"CRIMINALS" IN PARLIAMENT

Q. Cynics have forewarned that, judging from the current trends, "India's Parliament and some State Assemblies will have so many criminals and other suspects that the country would have tainted laws, dishonest legislators and an unethical, immoral society." Do you accept this contention? Give arguments For and Against it.

Ans. The tragedy of India is that with every passing year moral values are being eroded. Not only that, the criminal elements are flourishing in several arenas of activity while honest and virtuous people are being relegated to the background. This dismal phenomenon has become evident with a vengeance in modern politics. Persons with a criminal record have lately been entering legislatures after supporting leading politicians during elections and in various ways, especially with ill-gotten wealth. Such elements not only get protection from influential politicians but also managed to secure a party ticket for the recent elections. The money and muscle power enable them to push aside honest, scrupulous people. What will be the future of this country if the nexus between politics and criminal elements gets stronger with every election or other crucial political development?

Arguments For the View

1. It appears that the days of honest public men who would do everything possible to uphold moral values and never stoop to unethical practices nor encourage people of dubious character have gone with the wind. In consequence the criminal elements and history shee-

ters or known smugglers, deceivers and black marketeers who are facing charges of theft, murder and conspiracy for murder have entered politics. According to one estimate, in three States—U.P., Bihar and Andhra Pradesh alone, at least 50 persons of doubtful character contested the November, 1989, elections to the Lok Sabha and certain State Assemblies. When criminals and other anti-social elements become party candidates (earlier they remained in the background and pulled the strings from back-stage) and when they adopt frightening tactics which honest and earned people cannot match, what will become of this country? The moral fibre will snap before long.

2. Violence during elections is not a new phenomenon. In the previous Lok Sabha elections held in December, 1984, violence was not uncommon. Nearly 50 persons were killed in the Lok Sabha election campaigns. Of these 28 were from Bihar. In the 1985 State Assembly elections over 80 persons were killed in various parts of the country, 51 from Bihar. There have been cases of notorious offenders who won elections even though they were in jail—not because of their patriotism but because they were leaders of certain gangs and few dared to defy them and their agents who specialised in overawing the voters. At least two known criminals were expelled from the Congress (I) but shortly before the Nov 1989, poll they were readmitted into the party fold!

3. An even more glaring case is that of a prominent don of cooperative societies. Several criminal cases were launched against him at the initiative of no less a person than the Prime Minister. He was alleged to have swindled many people and dealt in spurious fertilisers. He contested for a Lok Sabha seat from Bihar. There were others too with a similar record who managed to secure support of one party or another for the elections.

Arguments Against the View

1. It is true that some dubious elements have lately entered politics

and among them are persons who are gangsters, mafia dons, other criminally inclined and even suspected murderers and dacoits, but the conclusion that our future Parliament and several State Assemblies will contain a large number of fishy characters is not warranted. The vast majority of our legislators are not by any means suspected criminals, gangsters or murderers. They may not be honest and sincere politicians and lawmakers and may be found busy in extraneous activity, but with a fully mature electorate and the voters rapidly acquiring a sense of discrimination, very few of notorious persons are likely to become legislators again.

2. With greater political and general awareness among both men and women voters, and even more among the young voters between the ages of 18-21 who are apparently determined to cleanse the stagnant, polluted political atmosphere, there is every hope that the criminal elements will not get parliamentary berths. There is also every chance that the promise to purify the polity by eliminating dishonest people, which was made by Mr Rajiv Gandhi early in 1985, and recently renewed by the enlightened set of rulers now in office, will be fulfilled. Criminal elements in important positions such as those of M.P.s are unlikely to be tolerated for long.

3. The indications are that the recommendation of the Election Commission in 1985 that a person facing prosecution or detained under various laws should be debarred from contesting elections will be taken up more earnestly than in the last poll. At present only those who have been actually convicted for at least two years are debarred. This situation prompted a veteran politician from Bombay to comment that "at this rate, the underworld lords and mafias will lead the political parties in the next century." Several leading politicians and others seem to have made up their minds that, come what may, they will not have rapists, criminals and "goondas" to enter Parliament. This healthy sentiment is catching on and is bound to show results soon.

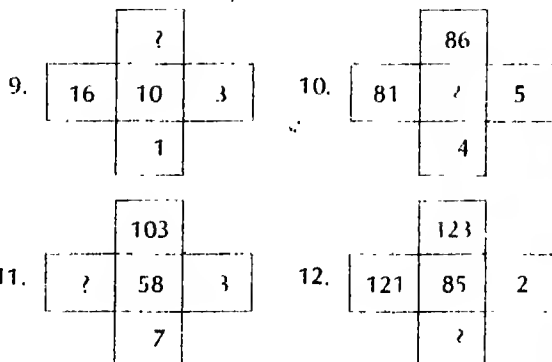
TEST OF REASONING-I

NUMBER SERIES

Find out the missing numbers in the series given below:

1. 193; 194; 198; 207;
2. 12; 14; 18; ...; 42; 74.
3. 10; ...; 37; 73; 145.
4. 1; 2; 2; 4; 8; 32
5. 21; 3; 7; ...; 6; 4; 42; 7; 6.
6. 2; 6; 3; 7; ...; 2; 5; 20; 4.
7. 6; 5; 12; 10; 18; ...; 24; 20.
8. 3; 6; 4; ...; 5; 12; 6; 15.

Numbers in questions 9 to 12 have been arranged according to a certain pattern. Your task is to find out the missing ones.



In questions 13 to 16, the arrangement of numbers in lines and columns is according to a definite pattern. Your task is to find out the missing numbers in each:

- | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|----|----|----|---|----|---|----|----|----|---|---|----|----|---|----|---|----|---|----|
| 13. <table style="display: inline-table; border-collapse: collapse;"><tr><td>5</td><td>21</td><td>11</td></tr><tr><td>7</td><td>?</td><td>3</td></tr><tr><td>15</td><td>36</td><td>18</td></tr></table> | 5 | 21 | 11 | 7 | ? | 3 | 15 | 36 | 18 | 14. <table style="display: inline-table; border-collapse: collapse;"><tr><td>9</td><td>28</td><td>10</td></tr><tr><td>4</td><td>79</td><td>?</td></tr><tr><td>63</td><td>1</td><td>14</td></tr></table> | 9 | 28 | 10 | 4 | 79 | ? | 63 | 1 | 14 |
| 5 | 21 | 11 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 7 | ? | 3 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 15 | 36 | 18 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 9 | 28 | 10 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 4 | 79 | ? | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 63 | 1 | 14 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 15. <table style="display: inline-table; border-collapse: collapse;"><tr><td>7</td><td>?</td><td>15</td></tr><tr><td>7</td><td>55</td><td>6</td></tr><tr><td>42</td><td>64</td><td>20</td></tr></table> | 7 | ? | 15 | 7 | 55 | 6 | 42 | 64 | 20 | 16. <table style="display: inline-table; border-collapse: collapse;"><tr><td>3</td><td>48</td><td>13</td></tr><tr><td>8</td><td>27</td><td>6</td></tr><tr><td>18</td><td>?</td><td>21</td></tr></table> | 3 | 48 | 13 | 8 | 27 | 6 | 18 | ? | 21 |
| 7 | ? | 15 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 7 | 55 | 6 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 42 | 64 | 20 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 3 | 48 | 13 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 8 | 27 | 6 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 18 | ? | 21 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

Find out the missing numbers in questions 17 and 18 on the basis of the examples given.

17. 173 (172) 216.
95 (. .) 131.
18. 198 (9) 117
419 (. .) 394.

LETTER SERIES

Find the odd-man out by arranging the jumbled letters.

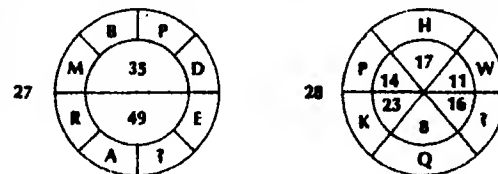
(cities; flowers; wild animals and months)

- | | | |
|----------------|------------|------------|
| 19. (a) SORE | (b) SLOUT | (c) ILLY |
| (d) MATTOO | | |
| 20. (a) MABBOY | (b) BANJUP | (c) HIELD |
| (d) RAGA | | |
| 21. (a) UNEJ | (b) TWINER | (c) STUAGU |
| (d) RALIP | | |
| 22. (a) FLOW | (b) GRITE | (c) OWC |
| (d) NOIL | | |

Given below are series of letters. Your task is to find out which letter would follow the last one.

23. D; E; G; J; N;
24. R; Y; S; X; T; W; U; V;
25. M; K; N; L; O; M; P;
26. A; D; B; C; F; D; E; H;

Find out the missing letters in the questions given below.



Study the series of letters given below and answer the questions that follow:

F B N R P C D S Q K I W Z A G U T L Y

29. Which letter is sandwiched between two vowels?
30. If the series were to be arranged in alphabetical order, which two letters will remain at their present place without changing position?
31. Which letter is exactly in the middle of thirteenth letter from the end and eleventh one from the beginning?
32. If all the letters were written alphabetically, which letter would be exactly in the middle?

CODING-DECODING

The word CARBON has been coded in six various ways. The word STREAM follows the same codes too but not in the same order. Your task is to match the right parts:

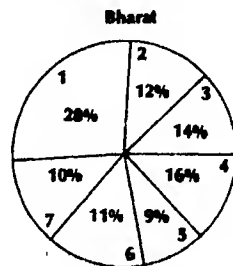
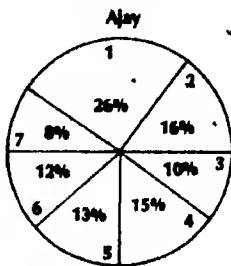
- | | |
|------------|------------|
| CARBON | STREAM |
| 33. NCOABR | (A) LZDQSR |
| 34. ECTDQP | (B) RUQFZN |
| 35. BBQCNO | (C) ERATMS |
| 36. NBAORC | (D) UVTGCO |
| 37. BROANC | (E) MSATER |

38. MNAQZB

(F) METARS

STATISTICS

Two friends Ajay and Bharat get Rs 4250 and Rs 3850 per month respectively, and their expenditures have been depicted by the wheel diagrams given below. Your task is to study the diagrams and answer the questions that follow.



- | | |
|------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. Food | 2. House-rent |
| 3. Clothes | 4. Children's education |
| 5. Entertainment | 6. Miscellaneous |
| 7. Savings | |

39. Who is spending more on house-rent and how much?

- | | |
|--------------|--------------|
| (a) B—Rs 100 | (b) A—Rs 218 |
| (c) A—Rs 800 | (d) A—Rs 116 |

40. Who is saving more and how much?

- | | |
|-------------|-------------|
| (a) A—Rs 8 | (b) B—Rs 45 |
| (c) B—Rs 15 | (d) A—Rs 2 |

41. How much more than B is A spending on entertainment?

- | | |
|------------|------------|
| (a) Rs 800 | (b) Rs 160 |
| (c) Rs 198 | (d) Rs 206 |

42. If the income of the friends was pooled, approximately what per cent of their total income are they spending on the education of their children?

- | | |
|------------|------------|
| (a) 16.2% | (b) 14.91% |
| (c) 15.48% | (d) 15.86% |

43. If B gets a rise of Rs 150 per month but continues to spend the same amount on food as he used to, what per cent of the income is he spending on food now?

- | | |
|------------|------------|
| (a) 25.85% | (b) 26.25% |
| (c) 26.95% | (d) 25.75% |

44. If Ajay wants to save 10% of his income by spending less on miscellaneous items, how much should he spend on them?

- | | |
|------------|------------|
| (a) Rs 395 | (b) Rs 435 |
| (c) Rs 425 | (d) Rs 445 |

ANSWERS AND EXPLANATIONS

223. Go on adding squares of numbers ($1^2; 2^2; 3^2 \dots$) to the numbers in the series.
26. Numbers 2, 4, 8, 16... are added to the numbers.

19. The next number is acquired by $(X \times 2) - 1$.
256. Multiply two preceding numbers to get the next one.
24. The numbers are in sets of three. Multiply second and third to get the first one.
14. The numbers are again in sets of three. Multiply first and third to get the second one.
15. There are two series: 6, 12, 15, 18... and 5, 10, 15, 20...
9. Again there are two series: 3, 4, 5... and 6, 9, 12, ...
- Example (9): $(3 + 1)^2 = 16$, $3^2 + 1^2 = 10$ and $16 + 3 = 19$.
- 19
- 41
- 100
- 9
- Example (13): $5 \times 3 = 15$; $11 + 7 = 18$; $(11 - 5)^2 = 36$; $7 \times 3 = 21$; $15 + 5 + 3 = 23$
- 23
- 7
- 30
- 100
144. The number is acquired by $(216 - 173) \times 4$.
5. The difference between the numbers on right and left is the square of this number.
- (d) tomato. Others are flowers, rose, lotus, lily.
- (b) Punjab. Others are cities, Bombay, Delhi and Agra.
- (b) winter. Others are months, June, August and April.
- (c) cow. Others are wild animals, wolf, tiger and lion.
- S. There is a difference of 1, 2, 3... letters.
- V. There are two series; R, S, T... and Y, X, W, ...
- N. Again there are two series; M, N, O... and K, L, M...
- F. The letters are in sets of three: the next set starts with the dropped letter.
- Y. Each letter's position in the alphabetical order is added to get the number in the semi-circle.
- N. Numbers match with the letters in the outer circle on the opposite end.
- G
- B and U
- Q
- N
- E
- D
- B
- F
- C
- A
- (b)
- (b)
- (d)
- (c)
- (c)
- (c)

TEST OF REASONING-II

ODD-MAN

Find the odd-man out:

- | | |
|---------------------|-----------------|
| 1 (a) Odissi | (b) Kuchipudi |
| (c) Dandiyaaras | (d) Manipuri |
| (e) Kathakali | |
| 2 (a) angle | (b) triangle |
| (c) square | (d) pentagon |
| (e) hexagon | |
| 3 (a) Venus | (b) Minerva |
| (c) Apollo | (d) Aphrodite |
| (e) Diana | |
| 4 (a) Ganges | (b) Chambal |
| (c) Jamuna | (d) Brahmaputra |
| (e) Indus | |
| 5 (a) bestow | (b) donate |
| (c) present | (d) distribute |
| (e) contribute | |
| 6 (a) petty | (b) trivial |
| (c) scanty | (d) massive |
| (e) insignificant | |
| 7 (a) Uttar Pradesh | (b) Gujarat |
| (c) Punjab | (d) Haryana |
| (e) Rajasthan | |
| 8 (a) Dante | (b) Homer |
| (c) G.B. Shaw | (d) Valmiki |
| (e) Chaucer | |

ANALOGIES

Tick-mark (✓) the choice that has a similar relationship between words as given in question:

- | | |
|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| 9 black grey | |
| (a) high low | (b) slim thin |
| (c) drink tea | (d) book diary |
| 10 minute second | |
| (a) hours week | (b) chain link |
| (c) road footpath | (d) foot inch |
| 11 educated illiterate | |
| (a) rough smooth | (b) fashion elite |
| (c) pages book | (d) renounce denounce |
| 12 river lake | |
| (a) pen ink | (b) ocean canal |
| (c) shirt skirt | (d) dictionary atlas |
| 13 glucose strength | |
| (a) coat warmth | (b) medicine bitter |
| (c) scissors cut | (d) letter post-card |
| 14 room hall | |
| (a) kitchen dining room | (b) pygmy giant |

- | | | | |
|--------------|----------|--------------|---------|
| (c) channel | message | (d) cricket | ball |
| 15 furniture | wood | | |
| (a) cloth | yarn | (b) cloud | vapour |
| (c) stone | brick | (d) religion | God |
| 16 conjure | trick | | |
| (a) guest | dinner | (b) evening | night |
| (c) palmist | foretell | (d) king | subject |

LEXICAL ITEMS

Find out the words starting with 'SPR' with the help of the clues provided.

- | | |
|--------|--------------------------------|
| 17 SPR | A season |
| 18 SPR | Liquid spreading in tiny drops |
| 19 SPR | Extend over the surface |
| 20 SPR | To throw in a shower |
| 21 SPR | A small twig |

Which set of three letters, if added before the letters given in question below will form words?

- 22
- | |
|-------|
| RAIN |
| ROR |
| MINAL |
| RIBLE |
| RACE |
| MINUS |

23 Which set of three letters, if added to letters given below will form words.

- VOL
- PL
- PERF
- ASS
- RES

Find out words for brackets that can be suffixed and prefixed to words on left and right.

- | | |
|-------------|-------|
| 24 MAIN () | SCAPE |
| 25 POST () | SHEFT |
| 26 PLAY () | NIIT |

In the questions given below, find out the words for brackets that may mean both, the word on the right as well as on left.

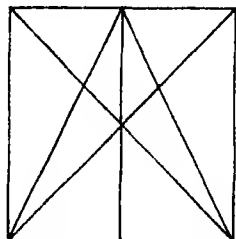
- | | |
|------------------|--------|
| 27 to shoot () | flames |
| 28 remaining () | relax |

Given below are two famous places from England. Follow the clue and find them out:

- 29 A male + part below neck + ER

30 Opposite of old + place where royal family lives

DEDUCTIONS



- 31 Count the number of triangles in the figure given above
- 32 How many straight lines are needed to draw the figure given above?

Four friends Chandar, Dharmendra, Mahesh and Lakshman are lecturer, manager, doctor and contractor by profession and live in Lucknow, Madras, Delhi and Chandigarh; but not in the same order. Study the statements given below and match the right parts.

The first letters of names, professions and names of the cities do not match

Chandar and Mahesh are neither lecturers nor do they live in Delhi.

Person living in Delhi is neither doctor nor contractor

- 33 Chandar (a) lecturer (A) Lucknow

- 34 Dharmendra (b) manager (B) Madras
35 Mahesh (c) doctor (C) Delhi
36 Lakshman (d) contractor (D) Chandigarh

Seven letters A, B, C, D, E, F and G are written in a straight line.

E is to the right of G

is between D and A

D and C have three letters between them

B and C have two letters between them

C is to the left of A

- 37 Which letter is on the extreme right?
38 Which letter is exactly in the middle?

Sheela started from her home at 8 AM to invite her friends for a party. She went north two kilometres and stopped at her friend's house for 10 minutes, then she turned left and went one kilometre, again she turned left and after walking for a kilometre turned right and covering one kilometre reached another friend's house and stopped there for 14 minutes. After turning to left again and going two kilometres she turned towards east and walked one kilometre to reach another friend's house. After staying there for 12 minutes she continued to walk in the same direction and after walking for one kilometre she reached her college 6 minutes before the class which started at 10:30 AM.

- 39 How far is the college from her home as the crow flies?
(a) 1 km (b) 2 km (c) 3 km (d) 4 km
- 40 What is Sheela's speed per kilometre?
(a) 10 mts (b) 12 mts (c) 15 mts (d) 20 mts

NON VERBAL SERIES

Given below are two sets of figures, the problem figures and the answer figures marked A, B, C, D and E. Your task is to find out which of the answer figures would fit in place of the question-mark in the problem figure.

PROBLEM FIGURES

41					?
42					?
43					?
44					?

ANSWER FIGURES

A	B	C	D	E

45					?
46					?
47					?
48					?
49					?
50					?

ANSWERS AND EXPLANATIONS

- | | |
|---|--|
| <p>1. (c) It is the only folk-dance among classical dances.</p> <p>2. (a) All the others are closed figures.</p> <p>3. (c) It is the only god among goddesses.</p> <p>4. (b) All the other rivers start from the Himalayas and fall southwards.</p> <p>5. (d) All the other terms mean giving, this one means dividing.</p> <p>6. (d) Other terms are related to smallness.</p> <p>7. (b) It is the only State with a coast-line.</p> <p>8. (c) All the others are ancient poets.</p> <p>9. (b) One is the strong form of the other.</p> <p>10. (d) The relationship is that of a unit and its divided parts.</p> <p>11. (a) The words are opposites.</p> <p>12. (c) Just as lake and river contain water, the common element in these two is cloth.</p> <p>13. (a) The relationship is that of an object and what it gives.</p> <p>14. (b) One is small, the other bigger.</p> <p>15. (b) The second one is needed to form the first.</p> <p>16. (c) The relationship is that of the person and his performance.</p> | <p>41. D. Circle goes round anti-clockwise, the triangle rotates clockwise and goes right and left and the cross along opposite corners.</p> <p>42. B. The lower-most rod goes to the top, the remaining shift down and the figures at the edges of now lower-most rod interchange places.</p> <p>43. E. The plus sign tilts alternately; black dot and circle move in opposite directions along the circumference of the bigger circle but at a different pace.</p> <p>44. A. One petal is added up and down alternately. Dot inside the circle becomes a small white circle by turns.</p> <p>45. E. Figures at the edges interchange places, circle hops from corner to corner and the dot shifts towards the other end changing sides.</p> <p>46. C. Circle and triangle go around edges in opposite directions and one small line is added at the other end of the lines by turns.</p> <p>47. C. Small circle moves along four corners, dots slowly shift clockwise with one additional dot and the pattern inside changes alternately.</p> <p>48. A. The arrow changes direction alternately, the dot shifts to the other end, the knob goes up and down near the pointed end and the other figure has a semi-circle and a square shape and shifts to the other edge, changing sides.</p> <p>49. D. Eyes, nose and mouth have different shapes and the top of the cap matches exactly with the eyes.</p> <p>50. A. Dot and triangle go round clockwise and arrow points in opposite directions alternately.</p> |
|---|--|

- | | | | |
|------------|----------------|----------------|--------------|
| 17. SPRING | 18. SPRAY | 19. SPREAD | 20. SPRINKLE |
| 21. SPRIG | 22. TER | 23. UME | 24. LAND |
| 25. CARD | 26. GROUND | 27. FIRE | |
| 28. REST | 29. MANCHESTER | 30. NEW CASTLE | |
| 31. 33 | 32. 9 | 33. cB | 34. aD |
| 35. dA | | | |
| 36. bC | 37. D | 38. C | 39. (a) |
| | | | 40. (b) |

TEST OF REASONING—III

SYLLOGISM

TYPE I

In the following statements, a situation has been explained in a few sentences followed by a conclusion. You have to say whether the conclusion:

- (a) necessarily follows from the statements.
- (b) is only a long drawn one.
- (c) definitely does not follow from the statements.
- (d) is doubtful as the data provided is inadequate.

Note: Your answers should only be in the light of the statements given.

Statements:

- (1) 1. Cosmetic labs use animals for testing and research.
2. Animal lovers demand a ban on such tests.

Conclusion: Animal lovers do not use any cosmetics.

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐

Statements:

- (2) 1. Spies are experts at stealing secret documents.
2. A minister found some of the very valuable secret documents missing.

Conclusion: It was the work of a spy.

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐

Statements:

- (3) 1. Doordarshan has been criticized for not being fair in political coverage.
2. The protest has been raised by the opposition party.

Conclusion: Doordarshan gives the Opposition less coverage in comparison to the ruling party.

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐

Statements:

- (4) 1. Mauritius is a beautiful island covered with coconut trees.
2. Andamans are covered with coconut trees and are beautiful islands.

Conclusion: All the islands in the world are beautiful and are covered with coconut trees.

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐

Statements:

- (5) 1. Revolutions symbolise the collapse of the old order.
2. Revolutions create a lot of confusion.

Conclusion: The masses partaking in revolutions get carried away by the mob mentality and just become a revengeful and aimless dissatisfied crowd.

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐

TYPE II

In making decisions about important questions, it is desirable to be able to distinguish between strong arguments and weak arguments so far as they are concerned with the question. 'Weak' arguments may not be directly related to the question, may be of minor importance or may be related to some trivial aspect of the question. Each question given below is followed by two arguments numbered I and II. You have to decide which of the arguments is 'strong' and which is 'weak'. Then decide which of the answers given below and numbered (a), (b), (c), (d) and (e) is the correct answer.

- (a) Only I is strong.
- (b) Only II is strong.
- (c) Both I and II are strong.
- (d) Either I or II is strong.
- (e) Neither I nor II is strong.

6. Are our players money minded?

- I. Yes, they play because they get money for it.
- II. No, they are more concerned about their performance and honour of the country.

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

7. Should doctors be dedicated to their profession?

- I. Yes, it is expected from them.
- II. No, if they are the dedicated sort, they won't earn much.

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

8. Should every child in our country have a right to be educated through the medium of his or her mother-tongue?

- I. Yes, children learn best through their mother-tongue.
- II. No, publishing books in so many languages is an impossibility.

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

9. Is acquiring more and more jewellery a waste of money?

- I. Yes, the annual subscription for the lockers in bank is pretty high.
- II. No, the stock of jewellery is a symbol of one's prosperity.

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

10. Is food in hotels better than home-made food?

- I. Yes, the cooks engaged by hotels are simply superb and very well versed in culinary skills.
- II. No, food made at home is very pure, clean and has the loving and personal touch of the lady of the house.

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

TYPE III

In the questions given below a statement is followed by implications I and II. Tick mark (✓) your answers:

- (a) if only I implies.
- (b) if only II implies.

- (c) if both I and II imply.
- (d) if either I or II implies.
- (e) if neither I nor II implies.

Statement:

11. Magazines with much political stuff and scandals are gaining more and more popularity.

Implications:

- I. Readers have lost interest in literary reading and popular fiction.
- II. Shocking scandals of well known personalities and political moves of leaders make fascinating reading.

(a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

Statement:

12. Instead of keeping money in banks, even the lay people these days prefer to invest it in shares.

Implications:

- I. Banks pay less interest in comparison to other investments.
- II. Money in shares and debentures is safer than money in bank.

(a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

Statement:

13. Scientists are spending millions on space programmes to know more and more about the universe.

Implications:

- I. Space programme is an expensive affair.
- II. Human beings stop at nothing if it is a question of satisfying curiosity or of gaining more and more knowledge.

(a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

Statement:

14. News correspondents never go out without a camera.

Implications:

- I. They look very smart with it.
- II. They want to oblige their acquaintances by taking their photographs.

(a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

Statement:

15. Humour is always appreciated if it does not hurt anyone.

Implications:

- I. Everyone loves laughing.
- II. 'Wit' is always appreciated.

(a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

TYPE IV

In questions given below, statements 1 and 2 are followed by conclusions I and II. Taking the statements to be true although they may appear at variance with commonly accepted facts, mark your answers as under:

- (a) Only I follows.
- (b) Only II follows.
- (c) Both I and II follow.
- (d) Either I or II follows.
- (e) Neither I nor II follows.

Statements:

- 16. 1. Some clocks are slow.
- 2. All clocks are black.

Conclusions:

- I. All black clocks are slow.
- II. Some black clocks are fast.

(a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

Statements:

- 17. 1. All parks are streets.
- 2. Some streets are mountains.

Conclusions:

- I. Some parks are mountains.
- II. Some mountains are not streets.

(a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

Statements:

- 18. 1. Some trees are cows.
- 2. Some cows are horses.

Conclusions:

- I. Some horses are trees.
- II. None of the horses is a tree.

(a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

Statements:

- 19. 1. Some musicians are dancers.
- 2. All dancers are doctors.

Conclusions:

- I. Some musicians are doctors.
- II. Some musicians are not doctors.

(a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

Statements:

- 20. 1. All balls are sticks.
- 2. All sticks are canes.

Conclusions:

- I. Some canes are balls.
- II. Some sticks are not balls.

(a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

Statements:

- 21. 1. Most of the naughty boys were punished.
- 2. Johnny is a naughty boy.

Conclusions:

- I. Johnny was punished.
- II. Johnny was not punished.

(a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

Statements:

- 22. 1. All questions in exercise V are difficult.
- 2. None of the students could answer the last question in the question paper.

Conclusions:

- I. The last question in the question paper was set from exercise V.
- II. It was some other question.

(a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

TYPE V

In the questions given below, assertion 'A' is followed by Reasons RI and RII. Tick-mark your answers:

- (a) if only RI is the reason for A.
- (b) if only RII is the reason for A.
- (c) if both RI and RII are the reasons for A.
- (d) if either RI or RII is the reason for A.
- (e) if neither RI nor RII is the reason for A.

23. A. The local municipality reserves a certain percentage of the area of every new locality for parks.

- RI. Parks add to the beauty of locality.
- RII. They provide recreation garden for the old as well as the young and the children.

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐
24. A Things are generally cheaper by the dozen.
 RI If a customer buys so many articles of one type at a time, the shop-keeper gives concession.
 RII The more is the demand the less is the price.
 (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐
25. A Functions are usually inaugurated by ministers.
 RI The ministers only know the correct way to inaugurate a function.
 RII There are no other important personalities in the country.
 (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐
26. A Ration-card is intended to supply certain necessities at subsidised rates.
 RI The quality of stuff purchased through ration-card is not good.
 RII The government tries to supply the necessities to citizens at reasonable rates by an equal distribution.
 (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

TYPE VI

At the end of the passage given below some conclusions have been drawn. On the basis of the study of the paragraph, mark your answers as under:

- (A) Definitely true.
 (B) Probably true.
 (C) Can't say as the data provided is inadequate.
 (D) Probably false
 (E) Definitely false.

Speaking on contemporary cinema, V Shantaram says, "Nowadays most of the commercial films provide escapist entertainment. Film-makers are insensitive to the needs of society. Several films are not only morally degrading but are also virtually vulgar, concentrating on nudity and violence." Unlike many of his contemporaries, he believes intensely in what he is trying to say. These qualities and feelings often rub off on his colleagues. Though Shantaram has been largely self-taught, he has been strongly influenced by D.W. Griffith and Elsentien. "As an artist I am not satisfied", he muses, "Though people praise my films, in my heart I can distinctly perceive blemishes in them."

27. Shantaram has never learnt the cine-art in a regular institution.

- A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐
28. His films convey no message to the masses.
 A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐
29. He is the best critic of his own films.
 A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐
30. There is absolutely no violence in his films.
 A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐

31. Other film makers have no message for the people of the country.

- A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐

ANSWERS AND EXPLANATIONS

1. (d) They might be using herbal or some other similar type of cosmetics.
 2. (b) There could be some other reason, he might have mislaid or forgotten it, hence a long drawn conclusion.

3. (a) The conclusion necessarily follows.
 4. (c) Two examples are not enough for generalization.
 5. (a) The conclusion is in confirmation with the statements.
 6. (b) The first one is weaker in comparison to the other.
 7. (e) Both are weak and lack reason.
 8. (a) It is related to a trivial aspect.
 9. (e) Both lack weightage.
 10. (c) Both the arguments are equally strong.
 11. (b) 12. (a) 13. (c) 14. (e)
 15. (c)

The best way to solve questions given in Type IV is by drawing diagrams of all the possible situations and then reach the conclusion.

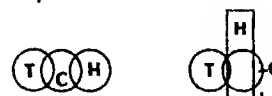
16. (e) The remaining ones could be accurate.



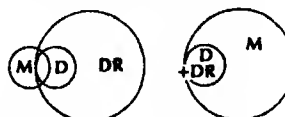
17. (e) Hence no conclusion has a certainty



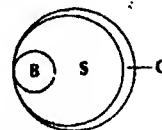
18. (d) So it could be either



19. (a) It is possible that the number of dancers and doctors is the same. Hence 'd'



20. (a) The number could be equal too. So only conclusion I follows



21. (d) Only one of the two is possible.
 22. (d) It could be either.
 23. (c)
 24. (a)
 25. (e)
 26. (b)
 27. B. The words 'largely self-taught' show a probability to assertion.
 28. E. The conclusion is wrong.
 29. A. The last sentence proves it.
 30. B. He himself speaks against violence so there is a probability.
 31. D. The words 'several films' and 'many of his contemporaries' show that there could be others like him.

Quantitative Aptitude

The first 13 questions were set in the L.I.C. Assistants' Examination held in 1989.

1. Solve: $\frac{(4.85 + 3.15)(4.85 - 3.15)}{(4.85 - 3.15)}$
2. Ashok spends $\frac{1}{3}$ of his wealth in constructing a temple, $\frac{1}{2}$ of the remaining amount gives to his son. He is still left with Rs 20,000 which he gives to his wife. Find out his total wealth.
3. The population of a city presently is 2 lacs. If it increases by 10% per annum, what will be the population of that city after 3 years?
4. A can do a work in 25 days and B in 30 days. Both started the work jointly. After 10 days A fell ill. How many days will B take to complete the work?
5. A thief steals a motor car at 6 p.m. and drives it at the speed of 60 km per hour. The theft is discovered at 7 p.m. and the owner sets off in another car at 75 km per hour. When will he catch the thief?
6. A shopman bought oranges at the rate of 7 for a rupee and sold them at a profit of 40%. How many oranges would a customer get for a rupee?
7. If Rs 5,600 amount to Rs 6,678 in $3\frac{1}{2}$ years, what will Rs 6,400 amount to in 5 years at the same rate per cent simple interest?
8. A Mali offers flowers in each temple of the city equal to the number of temples in the city. The total number of flowers offered by him is 1296. Find out the total number of temples in the city.
9. The average weight of 30 students of a class is 42 kg. If the weight of the teacher is added to it the average weight comes to 43 kg. Find out the weight of the teacher.
10. There is a rectangular field, the length of which is double of its breadth. What will be the cost of wire fencing around it at the rate of Rs 5 per metre. The area of the field is 288 sq metres.
11. Ramesh and Suresh started business by investing capital Rs 10,000 and 15,000 respectively. After 9 months Sanjay joins them by investing Rs 20,000. At the end of the year there was profit of Rs 9,000. What will be the share of each in profit.
12. A milkman stores milk in the containers having the capacity of 28, 35 and 49 litres. Find out the maximum capacity of a pot which will measure milk in all the containers in complete units.
13. Find out the smallest number which can be divided by 21, 25 and 35 if 3 is added to the same.

The questions given below are to be solved very quickly. Time limit is 30 seconds for each.

14. $588 + 4522 + 692 = ?$
(a) 4692 (b) 5802 (c) 5692 (d) 5702 (e) None of these

15. $320 \times 42 \div 15 = ?$
(a) 896 (b) 7260 (c) 4950 (d) 118
(e) None of these
16. $162,498 - ? = 69.3 + 75$
(a) 93.198 (b) 87.498 (c) 144.30 (d) 18.198
(e) None of these
17. $75\% \text{ of } 480 = ? \times 15$
(a) 1.32 (b) 24 (c) 18 (d) 270 (e) None of these
18. $\frac{\sqrt{121}}{11} \times \frac{45}{\sqrt{169}} \times \frac{13}{\sqrt{225}} = ?$
(a) 3596 (b) 10.83 (c) 3 (d) 5.36
(e) None of these
19. $\frac{41}{2} + \frac{31}{6} + ? + \frac{21}{3} = 13\frac{2}{5}$
(a) $\frac{32}{5}$ (b) $\frac{12}{5}$ (c) $4\frac{1}{5}$ (d) $4\frac{1}{6}$ (e) None of these
20. Which of the following fractions are in ascending order:
(a) $\frac{11}{14}, \frac{16}{19}, \frac{16}{21}$ (b) $\frac{16}{19}, \frac{11}{14}, \frac{16}{21}$ (c) $\frac{16}{21}, \frac{11}{14}, \frac{16}{19}$
(d) $\frac{16}{21}, \frac{16}{14}, \frac{11}{19}$ (e) None of these
21. If $2805 \div 2.55 = 1100$, $2805 \div 25.5 = ?$
(a) 1.01 (b) 0.11 (c) 11 (d) 1.1 (e) None of these
22. $\frac{(84 + 36) \times (8 + 6)}{(11 \times 11) - (19 \times 3)} = ?$
(a) 15 (b) 26.25 (c) 90 (d) 20 (e) None of these
23. $\frac{2592}{\sqrt{?}} = 324$
(a) 8 (b) 144 (c) 18 (d) 64 (e) None of these
24. $\frac{20}{13} \times \frac{17}{4} \times \frac{112}{119} = ?$
(a) $\frac{20}{13}$ (b) $\frac{560}{13}$ (c) $\frac{80}{13}$ (d) $\frac{16}{91}$ (e) None of these
25. $\frac{(25 \times 8) - (16 \times 5)}{224 \div 56}$
(a) 30 (b) 20 (c) 180 (d) 250 (e) None of these
26. $8\frac{1}{3}\% \text{ of } 600 = ?$
(a) 68 (b) 48 (c) 72 (d) 50 (e) None of these

OBJECTIVE-TYPE QUESTIONS

27. $\frac{9840}{\sqrt{4}} = 410$

- (a) 24 (b) 576 (c) 48 (d) 205 (e) None of these

28. $\frac{122}{38 + 12} = ?$

- (a) 5 (b) 2 (c) 3 (d) 200 (e) None of these

29. $385 - 55 = ?$

- (a) .07 (b) 0.9 (c) 0.7 (d) 0.6 (e) None of these

30. $152 \div 5 \times 0.2 = ?$

- (a) 6.08 (b) 60.4 (c) 15.2 (d) 30.4 (e) None of these

ANSWERS AND EXPLANATIONS

1. Suppose $485 = a$ and $315 = b$

Then, $\frac{(a+b)}{(a-b)} = \frac{a+b}{a-b}$

i.e. $485 + 315 = 8 \text{ Ans.}$

2. Suppose Ashok's wealth = 3,000

He spends on construction $3,000 \times \frac{1}{3} = 1,000$

He gives to his son $3,000 - 1,000 = 2,000 \times \frac{1}{2} = 1,000$

He is left with $3,000 - (1,000 + 1,000) = 1,000$

If he is left with 1,000, his total wealth = 3,000

If he is left with 20,000, his total wealth
 $= \frac{20,000 \times 3,000}{1,000} = 60,000 \text{ Ans.}$

3. Population = 2,00,000

After one year = $2,00,000 + \frac{(2,00,000 \times 10)}{100}$
 $= 2,20,000$

After two years = $2,20,000 + \frac{(2,20,000 \times 10)}{100}$
 $= 2,42,000$

After three years = $2,42,000 + \frac{(2,42,000 \times 10)}{100}$
 $= 2,66,200 \text{ Ans.}$

4. A's work for 1 day = $\frac{1}{25}$

B's work for 1 day = $\frac{1}{30}$

A + B's work for 1 day = $\frac{1}{25} + \frac{1}{30} = \frac{11}{150}$

A + B's work for 10 days = $\frac{11}{150} \times 10 = \frac{11}{15}$

Balance work = $1 - \frac{11}{15} = \frac{4}{15}$

B will finish $\frac{4}{15}$ of work in $\frac{4}{15} \times 30 = 8 \text{ days. Ans.}$

5. Difference of time between stealing and discovery of the car = 1 hour

The owner driving at 75 km/hr has to cover 60 km + further distance covered by the thief driving

at 60 km/hr

The owner covers 15 km extra in one hour

He will cover (60 + 15) or 75 km in (75 + 15) i.e., in 5 hours to catch the thief

6. He should gain 40% against Re 1 or $1 \times \frac{40}{100} = \frac{2}{5}$

Total gain = $1 + \frac{2}{5} = \frac{7}{5}$

So, S.P. of 7 oranges = $\frac{7}{5}$ (with 40% profit)

S.P. of 1 orange = $\frac{1 \times 7}{7 \times 5} = \frac{1}{5}$

He should sell 5 oranges for Re 1 (to gain 40%)

7. Amount = 6,678; P = 5,600

S. Int = $(6,678 - 5,600) = 1078$

Rate = $\frac{\text{S.I.} \times 100}{t \times P} = \frac{1078 \times 100 \times 2}{5600 \times 7} = \frac{11}{2}\%$

When P = 6400

S.I. = $\frac{P \times r \times t}{100}$ or $\frac{6400 \times 11 \times 5}{100 \times 2} = 1760$

Amount = P + S.I. or $6400 + 1760 = 8,160 \text{ Ans.}$

8. Total flowers = 1296

The answer will be square root of 1296 = 36

There are 36 temples in the city

9. Average weight of 30 students = 42 kg

Total weight = $30 \times 42 = 1260 \text{ kg}$

Total weight when teacher's weight added
 $= (30 + 1) \times 43 = 1333$

Weight of teacher = $1333 - 1260 = 73 \text{ kg Ans.}$

10. Area = 288 sq metre

If breadth = 1, length = 2

Possible pair of breadth and length in the ratio of 1 : 2 comes to 12 and 24

Perimeter = $2(l + b) = 2(24 + 12) = 72 \text{ m}$

Cost of fencing = $72 \times 5 = \text{Rs } 360 \text{ Ans.}$

11. Amount of shares: Ramesh = 10,000

Suresh = 15,000

Sanjay = 20,000 for 3 months or 5,000 for one year

Ratio. 10,000 : 15,000 : 5,000

Or 2 : 3 : 1

Profit = 9,000

Ramesh's share = $\frac{2}{6} \times 9000 = 3,000$

Suresh's share = $\frac{3}{6} \times 9000 = 4,500$

Sanjay's share = $\frac{1}{6} \times 9000 = 1,500$

12. 28 : 35 : 49 Or 4 : 5 : 7

The figure 7 divides the capacity of each container in complete units. So, the measuring pot required should have the capacity of 7 litres.

13. L.C.M. of 21, 25 and 35 = 525

$525 - 3 = 522 \text{ Ans.}$

14. (b) 15. (a) 16. (d) 17. (b) 18. (c) 19. (a)

20. (c) 21. (d) 22. (b) 23. (d) 24. (c) 25. (a)

26. (d) 27. (b) 28. (b) 29. (c)

30. (a)

ENGLISH LANGUAGE

* Indicate by its number the part of each of the following sentences in which you find a grammatical error. If there is no error, the answer is (5).

1. We are all liable (1) to forget this (2) we are much more conscious of the (3) imperfections of others (4) in this respect than of our own. (5).

2. It is in small matters of conduct (1), in the observance of the rule of the road (2), that we pass judgement (3) ourselves, and declare that (4) we are civilized or uncivilized. (5).

3. World War I ended at last (1), and the peace (2), instead of bringing us (3) relief and progress, brought us repressive legislation (4) and martial law in the Punjab. (5).

4. And yet fear builds its phantoms (1) which are more fearful (2) than reality itself (3) and the reality, when calmly analysed (4), loses much of its terror. (5).

5. Gandhi influenced million of people in India (1) in varying degrees (2), some changed the whole texture (3) of their lives, others were only (4) partly affected, or the effect wore off. (5).

6. In the devastating cyclone (1) many a persons ~~were~~ killed (2) in Andhra Pradesh (3), a number of houses collapsed (4) and the standing crops destroyed. (5).

7. After having tasted power (1) for so many years (2), the politicians are reluctant (3) to make room for others (4) in the evening of their lives. (5).

8. The lions looked unreal (1); their ghostly forms (2) blended with the grass (3) so that we could scarcely (4) tell where they were. (5).

9. The waters of Ganga (1) is as old as creation (2); she was like the fateline (3) of India's palm and the arbiter of (4) its people's fortunes. (5).

10. There is something decidedly (1) uncanny in the sound of a lion growling (2) when you cannot

see the animal (3), but knowing it is probably (4) within fifteen or twenty yards of you. (5).

* Use a single word for expressions in italics.

11. The walls of the fortress *could not be taken by arms*.

12. The selection of the leader *was done with one voice*.

13. AIDS disease *cannot be cured*.

14. Only gods are *not given to making mistakes*.

15. Election to Lok Sabha and five State Assemblies *were held at the same time*.

* Select the right word/words (out of those given below) nearest in meaning to the idioms/phrases in the following sentences.

16. We must always *bear in mind* that only hard work leads to success.

- (a) forget
- (b) remember
- (c) alternative
- (d) basis

17. He *is a bad boy* and that is why I have *given wide berth* to him.

- (a) avoid
- (b) advise
- (c) beat
- (d) give a seat

18. This place affords *a bird's eye view* of the green valley below.

- (a) narrow view
- (b) ugly view
- (c) general view
- (d) beautiful view

19. To find real happiness in the world is *a wild goose chase*.

- (a) hunting
- (b) futile search
- (c) ideal seeking
- (d) real aim

20. Wait here, I shall be back *in a jiffy*.

- (a) in a hurry
- (b) at once
- (c) by some vehicle
- (d) after sometime

* In each of the following questions six sentences are given. The first and the sixth sentences are numbered 1 and 6. The second, third, fourth and fifth sentences are not in proper sequence and are named A, B, C and D. Select the correct sequence of these four sentences from the responses given below:

21. 1. When we derive joy from the reading of a book, we identify ourselves with what we read.

- A. No one who is a seer can produce great literature.
- B. Joy is more lasting than pleasure and endures even through pain.
- C. They are expressions not of raw emotions or technical excellence but of emotions fused with thought.
- D. The works which induce joy are impersonal and lead to an extinction of the ego.

6. The supreme creations of our people's imagination are among the master-pieces of world literature.

22. 1. In Mother House, the day begins at 4.30 a.m.

- A. There is an enormous amount of washing to be done as all the clothes from the slum-schools are washed by nuns.
- B. The nuns foregather for a two hours session of prayers and meditation followed by Mass.
- C. Each sister has her own bucket.
- D. Then they get to work.

6. The handpump in the courtyard is their main source of water.

* Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions given

OBJECTIVE-TYPE QUESTIONS

at the end.

Swami Vivekanand was never tired of showing to his countrymen the value and significance of the culture that they had inherited from their ancestors. He pointed out clearly that Indian nationalism was to be based on the greatness of the past though various new things also had to be assimilated in the process of growth. If we have to be true to the genius of the race; if we have to appeal to the soul of the nation, we have to drink deep of the fountain of the past and then proceed to build the future. This heritage from the past, he pointed out, was essentially a religious heritage. The fundamental problem in India, therefore, was to organise the whole country round the spiritual ideal. Above all, he showed that the nation depended on the character and qualities of its individual members. On the strength of the individual lay the strength of the whole nation. So each individual, he urged, if he desired the good of the country as a whole, should try whatever might be his walk of life, to build character and acquire such virtues as courage, strength and self-respect, and hold fast to the national ideals of service and renunciation.

23. (a) Why, according to Vivekanand, was the culture of the past important for Indian nationalism?

(b) What was the heritage of the past?

(c) Where did the strength of a nation lie?

(d) What was the fundamental problem of India?

(e) What were the national ideals Vivekanand expected from the individual?

★ Fill in the blanks with appropriate prepositions from those given below.

24. She fell — the well.

(a) on

(b) into

(c) to

(d) through

25. She did not yield — pressure.

(a) to

(b) before

(c) into

(d) with

26. Mohan has been playing cards — morning.

(a) from

(b) for

(c) since

(d) before

27. The queen was highly vain — her beauty.

(a) from

(b) with

(c) over

(d) of

28. A deputation of traders waited — the minister.

(a) upon

(b) by

(c) before

(d) for

★ Find out the equivalent word nearest in meaning to the key word in *italics* in the following sentences.

29. In a highly competitive society, young entrepreneurs are likely to suffer from *hypochondria*.

(a) mental depression

(b) excitability

(c) sleeplessness

(d) high blood pressure

30. Political parties are harping on *tangential* issues rather than policy matters.

(a) opposite

(b) divergent

(c) slanting

(d) odd

31. When reason fails to convince, we resort to making *sophomoric* statements.

(a) mature

(b) immature

(c) lethargic

(d) frivolous

32. The Reserve Bank of India has predicted a *roseate* economic forecast.

(a) ornate

(b) delicate

(c) thorny

(d) highly optimistic

33. The 'hippies' were generally *hirsute* in their appearance.

(a) strong

(b) wild

(c) hairy

(d) ugly

ANSWERS

1. (2) 'and' as conjunction is required.
2. (3) 'upon' preposition is missing.
3. (5) No mistake.
4. (4) Definite article 'the' with 'reality' is superfluous, hence not needed.
5. (1) It should be 'millions' because the number is unspecified and indefinite.
6. (2) The expression should be either 'many a person' was killed or 'many persons were killed'.
7. (1) 'after' is redundant and not needed. The expression should be 'having tasted' or 'after tasting'.
8. (5) No mistake.
9. (3) 'is' instead of 'was' because the river is still flowing.
10. (4) 'know' in place of 'knowing' because the verb 'know' is not used in ...ing form.
11. impregnable
12. unanimous
13. incurable
14. infallible
15. simultaneously
16. (b)
17. (a)
18. (c)
19. (b)
20. (a)
21. BDCA
22. BDAC
23. (a) Vivekanand knew the strength of Indian culture based on religious spirit and service. For him past was like a fountain of strength and genius of the race.
- (b) The heritage of the past was a religious heritage.
- (c) The strength of a nation lay on the character and qualities of its individual members.
- (d) The fundamental problem of India was to organise the whole country round the spiritual ideal.
- (e) Vivekanand expected the national ideals of service and remuneration from the individual.
24. (b)
25. (a)
26. (c)
27. (d)
28. (a)
29. (a)
30. (b)
31. (b)
32. (d)
33. (c)

EVERYDAY SCIENCE

* Tick-mark the correct answer out of the choices given:

- The energy that travels along a telephone line is:
 - sound energy
 - radio energy
 - mechanical energy
 - ☒ electrical energy
- Essential parts of a television receiver are:
 - an ionoscope
 - a lens that forms a real image
 - ☒ a cathode ray tube
 - a photo-electric cell
- Of the following, the best reason for using mercury as a liquid in a barometer is that:
 - it does not evaporate
 - it does not wet the glass tube
 - it is an opaque liquid
 - ☒ it is a very dense liquid
- A thermos bottle keeps a liquid hot because:
 - it has double walls
 - it has silvered walls
 - air between the double walls is removed
 - ☒ heat losses by convection and radiation are largely prevented
- The statement that is not true of radiation is that it:
 - travels with the speed of light
 - ☒ always originates in the sun
 - is absorbed by black surfaces
 - is reflected by shiny surfaces
- Which one of the following metals does not form an amalgam?
 - zinc
 - ☒ silver
 - gold
 - iron
- The number of manmade or synthetic elements is about:
 - ☒ 14
 - 106
 - 92
 - 100
- The two most plentiful elements in the universe are:
 - oxygen and nitrogen
 - water and silica
 - ☒ hydrogen and helium
 - oxygen and hydrogen
- The metal that is most commonly extracted from sea water on an industrial scale is:
 - ☒ sodium
 - calcium
 - magnesium
 - potassium
- In industry, oxygen is prepared from:
 - ☒ liquid air
 - water
 - an oxide
 - potassium chlorate
- The oxygen of the atmosphere is due to:
 - volcanic eruptions
 - ☒ living plants
 - the exhalations of animals
 - carbon dioxide present in the air
- Hawks are valuable because they:
 - carry messages
 - feed on chickens
 - ☒ destroy mice
 - are used for sport
- Cover crops are planted in order to:
 - protect delicate seedlings
 - insulate cold soil
 - prevent soil erosion
 - ☒ prevent wind breaks
- The changes that occur in a plant community over a period of a few centuries are usually called:
 - evolution
 - food chains
 - ☒ succession
 - balance of nature
- An animal that is adapted to live on a very limited supply of water is the:
 - gull
 - ☒ horned toad
 - ant
 - reindeer
- Nerves from the eyes and ears are connected to the:
 - cerebellum
 - ☒ cerebrum
 - medulla
 - spinal cord
- To be detected by its odour, a substance must be in the form of:
 - a solid
 - a liquid
 - ☒ a gas
 - dust
- Habits are:
 - acts of will power
 - inborn reflexes
 - autonomic activities
 - ☒ acquired automatic acts
- Habits and conditioned reflexes are alike in that both:
 - are inherited
 - ☒ are learned responses
 - appear only in dogs
 - appear only in man
- Although some dogs seem to act intelligently, their responses do not appear to involve:
 - reflexes
 - instincts
 - ☒ thought
 - consciousness
- The crust of the earth is made chiefly of:
 - ☒ igneous rock
 - sedimentary rock
 - metamorphic rock
 - intruded rock
- Of the following, the most plentiful mineral is:
 - quartz
 - mica
 - ☒ feldspar
 - calcite
- Tides are highest:
 - in the spring
 - when the earth is nearest the moon
 - ☒ when the earth is nearest

OBJECTIVE-TYPE QUESTIONS

- the sun
(d) when the sun, moon, and earth are in line
24. The stars that can be seen with the unaided eye number about:
- 400 to 500
 - 4,000 to 5,000
 - 40,000 to 50,000
 - 400,000 to 500,000
25. Erosion may be due to:
- wind
 - the sun's heat causing rocks to expand
 - the acid in water causing rocks to dissolve
 - the force of expansion as water freezes in rock crevices

**Increases (I); Decreases (D);
Remains the Same (RS)**

26. An airplane is travelling at uniform velocity. As machine guns of the airplane discharge bullets in a forward direction, the forward velocity of the airplane ____.

27. As the centre of gravity of a body is raised, the stability of a body ____.

28. If the unbalanced force acting upon a body remains the same, while its mass is decreased, the acceleration of the body ____.

29. As a bucket of ice melts, and as long as some ice is present, the temperature of ice-water mixture ____.

30. For a liquid which expands upon freezing, as pressure is increased, the freezing temperature ____.

Explain

31. You are looking diagonally down at a fish in a pond. To the fish, assuming it can see you, does your head appear higher or lower than it actually is.

32. Why do we see the sun before it actually rises above the horizon in the morning?

Association Test

33. **Directions:** For each term in Group 'B', write the number preceding the name of the cell from Group 'A' most closely associated with that term.

- Group 'A'**
- Cardiac muscle cell
 - Bone cell

- Epithelial cell of trachea
- Smooth muscle cell
- White blood cell
- Red blood cell
- Fat cell

Group 'B'

- Large Vacuole
- Rh antigen
- Striations
- Pseudopods
- Cilia

Fill in the blanks

34. (a) When a piece of rubber is rubbed with fur, the rubber acquires a ____ charge, and the fur a ____ charge.

(b) The fact that a magnetic field surrounds a current-bearing wire was discovered by ____.

(c) When the lead storage cell is being charged ____ energy is being converted into ____ energy.

(d) A fuse wire should have a ____ resistance and a ____ melting point.

(e) A lamp that emits ultra-violet light is the ____.

(f) Steel is used for permanent magnets because of its high ____.

(g) The angle between the true north and the direction of the compass is called the ____.

(h) Two colours are complementary when a combination of them gives the sensation of ____.

(i) The mass of an electron is approximately equal to that of ____ of a proton.

Test Your Knowledge

35. The sun is a very hot sphere of gases with a surface temperature of 1. Its diameter is 2 times that of the earth, and its volume is 3 times that of the earth. The sun has been furnishing energy for millions of years. This energy comes from the 4 of 5 to form heavier elements. At the centre of the sun is the solar interior. Surrounding this are three layers, the 6, 7, and 8. There are storms on the surface of the sun causing 9. These apparently move across the surface of the sun indicating that the sun 8. Bright spots on

the sun are caused by 9. One such type of bright spot connected with sunspots is the 10. The moon is barren land without either 11 or 12 to support life. The moon 13 light to the earth from the 14. The new moon appears when the 15 is between 16 and the sun.

ANSWERS

- (d)
- (c)
- (d)
- (d)
- (b)
- (d)
- (a)
- (c)
- (c)
- (a)
- (b)
- (c)
- (c)
- (c)
- (b)
- (b)
- (c)
- (d)
- (b)
- (a)
- (c)
- (d)
- (b)
- (a)
- D
- D
- D
- RS
- D
- Higher. The ray of light reaches from the eye of the fish after bending at the surface of water. If this ray is produced backward, it will show a higher position of the observer.
- The atmosphere near the earth's surface is denser than in outer space. At the time of sunrise or sun-set, the rays from the sun traverse a much longer distance and bend towards the earth's surface. If these rays are produced back, they will indicate a much higher position of the sun at the time of sun rise or sun set.
- (a) 7 (b) 6 (c) 1 (d) 5 (e) 3
- (a) negative, positive
(b) Oersted
(c) electrical, chemical
(d) high, low
(e) mercury vapour arc lamp
(f) retentivity (g) declination
(h) white (i) 1/1839
1. 10,000°F 2. 110
3. 1,000,000 4. fusion
5. hydrogen
6. photosphere, chromo-sphere, corona
7. sunspots 8. rotates
9. solar prominences
10. solar flares 11. air
12. water 13. reflects
14. sun 15. moon
16. earth

GENERAL AWARENESS

The questions below were asked in the Railway Recruitment Board's examination held on the 12th November, 1989. We are grateful to Sri A.K. Chakraborty of Palta (West Bengal) and Sri R.V. Sarika of Cochin for sending these questions to us.

* Tick-mark the correct answer out of the choices given:

- Which of the following is not a member of SAARC?
(a) Pakistan
(b) Afghanistan
(c) Bangladesh
(d) Sri Lanka
- Which of the following awards is instituted by the UNESCO?
(a) Nehru Award for International Understanding
(b) Kalinga Prize
(c) Dronacharya Award
(d) Arjuna Award
- Which of the following river-groups flows into the Bay of Bengal?
(a) Narbada; Ganga; Brahmaputra
(b) Cauvery; Krishna; Narmada
(c) Ganga; Yamuna; Ravi
(d) Godavari; Ganga; Brahmaputra
- Mohiniyattam is a folk dance of:
(a) Kerala
(b) Tamil Nadu
(c) Andhra Pradesh
(d) Karnataka
- The Planning Commission was set up in the year:
(a) 1947
(b) 1950
(c) 1948
(d) 1951
- 'NAM' stands for:
(a) North-aligned Movement
(b) Non-aligned Movement
(c) Non-aligned Motion
(d) None of these
- Vitamin 'A' is necessary in

our body for:

- good digestion
- haemoglobin synthesis
- proper vision
- prevention of blood clotting
- Iron may be extracted from which of the following?
(a) cinnabar
(b) cryolite
(c) galena
(d) magnetite
- An oxide of iron has a formula Fe_2O_3 . The valency of iron in Fe_2O_3 is:
(a) one
(b) two
(c) three
(d) four
- Which of the following chemicals is used in the making of photographic film?
(a) silver bromide
(b) aluminium hydroxide
(c) sodium chloride
(d) bronze bromide
- How many States are there in India?
(a) 20
(b) 19
(c) 22
(d) 25
- Whose signature is found on the one rupee currency note in India?
(a) Governor, Reserve Bank of India
(b) Prime Minister of India
(c) President of India
(d) Finance Secretary, Ministry of Finance
- Panchayati Raj system was introduced in India in:
(a) 1951
(b) 1950
(c) 1957
(d) 1959
- Indian Railway system is divided into how many zones?
(a) 6
(b) 7
(c) 9

(d) 11

- Where is India's first nuclear power station situated?
(a) Korba
(b) Kalpakkam
(c) Tarapore
(d) Trombay
- Which Article of the Indian Constitution provides for provisions under which the Constitution can be amended?
(a) Article 343
(b) Article 368
(c) Article 358
(d) Article 378
- Suez Canal was nationalised in the year.
(a) 1956
(b) 1955
(c) 1954
(d) 1957
- Which of the following is the highest military decoration in India?
(a) Vir Chakra
(b) Param Vir Chakra
(c) Maha Vir Chakra
(d) Param Vashisht Seva Medal
- The venue of the 1992 Olympic Games is:
(a) Rome (Italy)
(b) Barcelona (Spain)
(c) Tokyo (Japan)
(d) Paris (France)
- The prestigious Dada Saheb Phalke award for 1988 was given to:
(a) V. Shantaram
(b) Raj Kapoor
(c) Ashok Kumar
(d) Satyajit Ray
- How many centuries have been scored by Gavaskar in Test matches?
(a) 29
(b) 32
(c) 34
(d) 35
- The first railway line in India was opened in 1853 between:
(a) Bombay and Thana
(b) Pune and Bombay

OBJECTIVE-TYPE QUESTIONS

- (c) Delhi and Calcutta
(d) Cuttack and Mysore
23. Where is Railway Staff College located?
(a) Delhi
(b) Vadodara
(c) Allahabad
(d) Gorakhpur
24. Which planet is in the outermost orbit of solar system?
(a) Venus
(b) Jupiter
(c) Saturn
(d) Pluto
25. In which of the following places, there is a planetarium?
(a) Firozabad
(b) Kanpur
(c) Cuttack
(d) Calcutta
26. Who of the following can preside in the proceedings of either House of Parliament, without having a right to vote?
(a) President
(b) Vice-President
(c) Speaker of the Lok Sabha
(d) Chief Justice of India
27. Which of the following cities do not have an international airport?
(a) Bombay
(b) Madras
(c) Bangalore
(d) Calcutta
28. Where in India, Indian lions are nurtured in natural surrounding?
(a) Corbett National Park
(b) Gir Forest, Gujarat
(c) Kanha National Park
(d) Dudhwa National Park
29. The famous Meenakshi temple is situated in:
(a) Tanjore
(b) Caruvayur
(c) Madurai
(d) Tiruchirapalli
30. Which of the following is the currency of Japan?
(a) Pound
(b) Dollar
(c) Yuan
(d) Yen
31. Ajanta paintings depict scenes from the:
(a) Ramayana
(b) Mahabharata
(c) Jatakas

- (d) Upanishads
32. 'Panchtantra' is written by:
(a) Kalidas
(b) Tulsidas
(c) Vishnu Sharma
(d) Kautilya
33. Who is called the 'Grand Old Man of India'?
(a) Jawahar Lal Nehru
(b) Mahatma Gandhi
(c) Dadabhai Naoroji
(d) G.K. Gokhale
34. How many languages are recognised according to Eighth Schedule of the Indian Constitution?
(a) 10
(b) 12
(c) 15
(d) 16
35. The birth centenary of which Indian President was celebrated in 1988?
(a) Dr Rajendra Prasad
(b) Dr S. Radhakrishnan
(c) V.V. Giri
(d) Zakir Hussain
36. Who was the founder of Arya Samaj?
(a) Swami Dayanand
(b) Lala Lajpat Rai
(c) Raja Ram Mohan Roy
(d) Swami Vivekanand
37. The Rourkela Steel Plant has been established with the assistance of:
(a) U.S.S.R.
(b) U.S.A.
(c) West Germany
(d) U.K.
38. The Mascot of 1992 Olympic Games is:
(a) Misa
(b) Cobi
(c) Bapu
(d) Appu
39. Who said: "Where wealth accumulates men decay"?
(a) Karl Marx
(b) Goldsmith
(c) Abraham Lincoln
(d) Mahatma Gandhi
40. Name the capital of Lakshadweep?
(a) Port Blair
(b) Aizawl
(c) Kavaratti
(d) Silvassa
41. In which Battle of Panipat, Akbar's forces under Bairam Khan

- defeated Hemu?
(a) First Battle of Panipat
(b) Second Battle of Panipat
(c) Third Battle of Panipat
(d) None of these
42. The minimum age for a person to become a member of the Lok Sabha is:
(a) 25 years
(b) 30 years
(c) 35 years
(d) 20 years
43. Who is author of the book "Oscar and Lucinda"?
(a) Naguib Mahfouz
(b) Ms Benazir Bhutto
(c) Peter Carey
(d) Nirad C. Chowdhury
44. The chairman of the Atomic Energy Commission of India is:
(a) Dr N.R. Srinivasan
(b) Prof Yashpal
(c) Prof U.R. Rao
(d) Dr A.P. Mitra
45. The currency of Thailand is:
(a) Won
(b) Baht
(c) Yen
(d) Lira
46. Dronacharya Awards are given:
(a) to outstanding athletes
(b) to outstanding coaches
(c) for best performance in archery
(d) for invention in science
47. The 1988 Nobel Prize for Literature was awarded to:
(a) Naguib Mahfouz
(b) Maurice Allias
(c) Peter Carey
(d) Dr Marcel Roche

ANSWERS

1. (b) 2. (b) 3. (d) 4. (a)
5. (b) 6. (b) 7. (c) 8. (d)
9. (c) 10. (a) 11. (d) 12. (d)
13. (d) 14. (c) 15. (c) 16. (b)
17. (a) 18. (b) 19. (b) 20. (c)
21. (c) 22. (a) 23. (b) 24. (d)
25. (d) 26. (a) 27. (c) 28. (b)
29. (c) 30. (d) 31. (c) 32. (c)
33. (c) 34. (c) 35. (b) 36. (a)
37. (c) 38. (b) 39. (b) 40. (c)
41. (b) 42. (a) 43. (c) 44. (a)
45. (b) 46. (b) 47. (a)

THE EXAMINER'S GUESS QUESTIONS

Q. At which place was India's highest polling station, in the elections to the 9th Lok Sabha, located?

Ans. Hikkim village in the Spiti tribal area of Himachal Pradesh. The village is located at an elevation of 15,000 feet above sea level. It has only 52 voters.

The second highest polling station was set up at Kibber in Kaza district of Himachal Pradesh. Kibber is located at an elevation of 13,000 feet.

Q. By what name is the East German Parliament known?

Ans. Volkskammer.

Q. What was Bharatiyam '89?

Ans. It was a children's cultural show which was held at Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium, New Delhi, on November 14, 1989. The programme also marked the conclusion of Nehru centenary celebrations.

Q. With what is Brandenburg Gate associated?

Ans. Berlin Wall.

Q. What is psephology?

Ans. Sociological and statistical study of election results and trends.

Q. Who holds the record of winning with highest margin in the Indian elections to the Lok Sabha?

Ans. Ram Vilas Paswan. In the elections to the 9th Lok Sabha he defeated his nearest rival by a margin of 4,98,337 votes.

Q. As per the statistics released by the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), what was India's external debt at the end of 1988?

Ans. \$ 54.636 billion, equivalent to over Rs 90,000 crore at current exchange rate.

Brazil with over \$ 117 billion was the world's highest followed by Mexico and Indonesia.

India's debt at \$ 54.6 billion comprises official development assistance (concessional) of \$ 11.5

billion, multi-lateral credits of \$ 18.9 billion and bank claims of over \$ 14 billion besides supplier credits.

Repayments on long term borrowing falling due in 1989 amount to \$ 1770 million as against \$ 2610 million in 1988.

Q. What does *Prague Spring* refer to?

Ans. The Prague Spring reform movement took place in 1968 in Czechoslovakia. It was condemned as anti-social and "leading back to capitalism" after the invasion of troops from Warsaw Pact countries to suppress the movement.

The reform programme called for a multi-party political system, private ownership of small business and close relations with the western countries.

The Czechoslovakian Communist Party has decided to re-adopt the programme. It also declared that the invasion of Warsaw Pact troops, in 1968, to put down the movement was "not justified".

Q. Who is the seventh Prime Minister of India?

Ans. Mr V.P. Singh. He is the eighth Prime Minister, taking Mrs Indira Gandhi's continuous terms of 1966-77 and 1980-84 as two separate regimes. He is the third non-Congress-I Prime Minister, the other two being Mr Morarji Desai (March 1977 to July 1979) and Mr Charan Singh (August 1979 to early January 1980).

Q. Which Indian city celebrated 1000 years of existence in December 1989?

Ans. Cuttack in Orissa.

Q. Where were the first summit talks between Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachov and US President George Bush held?

Ans. On board the Soviet luxury liner *Maxim Gorky* which was

anchored in the Marsaxlokk Bay in Malta.

Q. When is the newly elected Lok Sabha Constituted?

Ans. The newly elected Lok Sabha is constituted with the issuing of notification by the Election Commission. The notification contains the names of the newly elected members.

With the issue of notification the House can be called into session by the President, whenever he chooses to do so.

Q. In the elections to 9th Lok Sabha, held in November 1989, for how many seats were the elections held?

Ans. Elections were to be held for 529 seats but elections to four seats were countermanded. Elections to 14 Lok Sabha seats in Assam could not be held as the electoral rolls were not ready.

Q. Name the deputy Chairman of the Planning Commission? Who is the ex-officio chairman?

Ans. Mr Ram Krishna Hegde. The Prime Minister is the ex-officio chairman of the Planning Commission.

Q. From which constituency was Prime Minister V.P. Singh elected to the 9th Lok Sabha?

Ans. Fatehpur in Uttar Pradesh.

Q. Name the first non-Communist President of East Germany?

Ans. Manfred Gerlach.

Q. Name the first tribal Chief Minister of Orissa?

Ans. Hemananda Biswal. He has been elected as the eleventh Chief Minister of the State.

Q. Who has been appointed the Auditor-General of India?

Ans. Mr Soli J. Sorabjee.

SPORTS

ATHLETICS

Asian Championships

A new chapter was written in the history of sports in India when it played host to the eighth Asian Track and Field Championships at the Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium in New Delhi from November 14 to 19. While the athletes from 34 countries fought for glory in a spirit of camaraderie and brotherhood, the organisers provided a feast of colour, pageantry and some dare-devil feats. Full Olympic rituals were gone through as President R. Venkataraman inaugurated the meet and Vice-President Dr Shankar Dayal Sharma declared it closed. The meet had previously been held at Manila (1973), Seoul (1975), Tokyo (1977 and 1981), Kuwait (1983), Jakarta (1985) and Singapore (1987). Malaysia will hold the next meet.

Jawahar Jyoti: The nation paid homage to the great lover of sports and builder of the country, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru by organising a cross country Jawahar Jyoti relay, signifying the spirit of national integration. Starting in the South from Kanyakumari, west from Panjim, east from Calcutta and north from Srinagar, it reached the Capital a day before the meet. From there it was relayed to the Stadium.

It was a dramatic moment as India's badminton ace Prakash Padukone entered the Stadium with the torch held aloft. From three other tunnels came the Jyoti carried by former football star P.K. Banerji, cricket maestros Sunil Gavaskar and Bishan Singh Bedi. All four Jyotis were then merged into "Bhawishya Ki Jyoti", signifying unity. The Mother Jyoti was handed over to Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi, who in turn, passed it to tennis veteran Vijay Amrithraj for the final lap around the stadium by a galaxy of outstanding sportspersons. To legendary "Flying Sikh" Milkha Singh and star woman

athlete M.D. Valsamma was bestowed the honour of lighting the Games Flame in the imposing cauldron. The sprint queen P.T. Usha took the oath on behalf of the participating athletes, prior to the commencement of the programme.

Medals Tally: The Chinese proved supreme and emerged overall champions while India had the proud distinction of having the meet's "outstanding athletes" in their ranks. The glory among women went to P.T. Usha, who had collected four gold and two silver medals in the six events in which she participated. Courageous Bahadur Prasad was adjudged the "Outstanding Athlete" in the overall ratings in the men's section.

Country	Gold	Silver	Bronze
China	22	15	6
India	7	9	6
Japan	3	5	5
South Korea	2	1	1
Chinese Taipei	2	0	7
North Korea	1	3	4
Qatar	1	0	4
Myanmar (Burma)	1	0	2
Iran	1	0	2
Saudi Arabia	0	2	0
Bahrain	0	1	0
Kuwait	0	1	0
Iraq	0	1	0
Philippines	0	1	0
Oman	0	1	0
Malaysia	0	0	2
Palestine	0	0	1
Syria	0	0	1
Thailand	0	0	1

Gold Medallists (NR denotes new meet record)

Men: 100 metres: Zheng Chen (China); 200 metres: Yoshiyuka Okuyama (Japan); 400 metres: Ibrahim Ismail (Qatar) NR; 800 metres: F. Rourtaefar (Iran); 1500 metres: Bahadur Prasad (India); 5,000 metres: Zhang Gwowe (China); 10,000 metres: Lyu Ok Hyon (North

Korea); 4 x 100 metres relay: China; 4 x 400 metres relay: Japan; 110 metres hurdles: Yu Zhicheng (China); 400 metres hurdles: Hwang Hong Chul (S. Korea); 3,000 metres steeplechase: Dina Ram (India); 20 km walk: Horofumi Sakai (Japan); long jump: Nai Hui Fang (Chinese Taipei) NR; high jump: Cho Hyun-uk (S. Korea); triple jump: Chen Yanping (China); pole vault: Liang Xuere (China) NR; shot put: Balwinder Singh (India); discus throw: Zhang Junlong (China); javelin throw: Wang Wenzhong (China) NR; hammer throw: Bi Zhong (China); decathlon: Lee Fu An (China).

Women: 100 metres: Zhang Caihua (China); 200 metres: P.T. Usha (India) NR; 400 metres: P.T. Usha (India); 800 metres: Sun Sumei (China); 1,500 metres: Khim Khim Hwe (Myanmar-Burma); 3,000 metres: Zhong Huandi (China) NR; 4 x 100 metres relay: China NR; 4 x 400 metres relay: India; 100 metres hurdles: Liu Huajin (China); 400 metres hurdles: India; 10,000 metres: Zhang Huandai (China); 10 km walk: Chen Yueling (China) NR; long jump: Liu Shuzhen (China); high jump: Jin Ling (China); shot put: Huang Zhihong (China) NR; discus throw: Yu Hourim (China) NR; javelin throw: Xin Xiaoli (China); heptathlon: Dong Yupin.

Fastest Athletes: China claimed the double in providing the fastest man and woman athletes of the meet. China made it to a one-two in the men's sprint. Zheng Chen recorded 10.35 seconds beating his country's national champion Li Tao, who was second in 10.42 seconds. Zhang Caihua streaked past the tape in 400 metres in 11.65 seconds beating India's valiant P.T. Usha to second place by the closest margin.

Best All-rounders: Both the tests of skill, stamina and all-round proficiency were claimed by China. The seven-event heptathlon for women was won by Dong Yupin with a tally of 6,042 points. Among men the 10-

event decathlon's gold was claimed by Lee Fu An with 7,703 points.

India's Medal Winners:

Gold: Balwinder Singh (shot put), Bahadur Prasad (1500 m), Dina Ram (Steeplechase), P.T. Usha (200 metres, 400 metres, 400 metres hurdles), India (4 × 400 metres relay—P.T. Usha, Mercy Kuttan, Shiny Wilson and K. Saramma).

Silver: Ram Niwas (1,500 metres), Bahadur Prasad (5000 metres), India: 4 × 400 metres relay—Murlidharan, P.V. Raju, Ayyappa Durai and Arjun Deviah, P.T. Usha (100 metres), Shiny Wilson (400 metres and 800 metres), Ashwani Nachappa (200 metres), Kavita Gani (10 km walk), India (4 × 100 metres—Ashwani Nachappa, K. Saramma, Sany Joseph and P.T. Usha).

Bronze: S.D. Esha (shot put), Vijay Kumar (800 metres), Baldev Singh (20 km walk), Shakti Singh (discus throw), Roza Kutty (800 metres) and Reeth Abraham (long jump).

BADMINTON

World Cup Tournament

Men's singles Yang Yang (China)

Women's singles Susi Susanti (Indonesia).

Men's doubles Park Joo Bong and Kim Moon Soo (S Korea).

Women's doubles Lin Ying and Guan Weizhen (China).

Mixed doubles Park Joo Bong and Chung Myung Hee (South Korea).

CRICKET

Pak-India Tests

First Test: Twentyfour-year-old Sanjay Manjrekar scored a majestic unbeaten century (113) to help India draw the first Test against Pakistan at Karachi on November 20.

Scores:

Pakistan: 409 and 305 for five declared.

India: 262 and 303 for three.

Second Test: India's batting touched dizzy heights in their second innings in the second Test against Pakistan which ended in a draw at Faisalabad on November 28. Youthful Sanjay Manjrekar was declared the "Man of the Match".

Scores:

Pakistan: 423 for nine declared.

India: 288 and 398 for seven.

Australia-New Zealand Tests

First Test: The first Test between Australia and New Zealand resulted in a draw at Perth on November 28.

Scores:

Australia: 521 for nine declared.

New Zealand: 231 and 322 for seven.

Irani Trophy

The five-day annual Irani Trophy Cricket Match between the Ranji Trophy Champions Delhi and the Rest of India resulted in a triumph for the former by a big margin of 309 runs.

Scores:

Delhi 461 and 383 for eight declared

Rest of India: 290 and 245.

FOOTBALL

D.C.M. Trophy

The prestigious D.C.M. Trophy was annexed by Esteghlal Club of Iran, the new name of Taj Club that won this tournament three times in a row from 1969 to 1971, when they mauled tough challengers and holders Posco Club of South Korea in the final at New Delhi on November 10.

HOCKEY

Indira Gandhi Gold Cup

China lifted the third Indira Gandhi Gold Cup, beating India by 2-0 in the last match of the five-nation women's inter-continental hockey tournament at Lucknow on November 20. The match against India was just a formality as China had assured themselves of the title when they had won all their earlier matches. Defending champions, the Soviet Union, finished second with five points. Ireland, who too had collected five points, had to be content with third spot as the Soviets had a better goal difference.

Inter-Continental Cup Women's Tournament

The third Inter-Continental Cup Women's Hockey Tournament, in which 12 nations participated, ended in a triumph for South Korea at New Delhi on November 12. In the final, they edged past China by two goals to one. Spain claimed the third spot beating Japan by 4-0.

Inter-Services Championship

After a gap of nine years, Western Command came on top in the 37th Inter-Services Hockey Championship at Jalandhar on November 9. Displaying better skill and speed, power and penetration, they edged out a fighting fit Southern Command by 1-0 in extra time.

Surjit Memorial Tournament

Punjab and Sind Bank (Delhi) notched up a 4-1 victory over Border Security Force (Jalandhar) in the final of the sixth Surjit Singh Memorial Hockey Tournament at Jalandhar on November 6.

MOTORING

Himalayan Car Rally

The U.S.-based Rod Millen of New Zealand (38), in a Mazda Familia with co-driver 28-year-old Tony Sircombe, made a fine debut by winning the 1600-km gruelling 10th Himalayan Car Rally, which concluded at New Delhi on November 8. Austrian Georg Fisher with Thomas Zeltner, in an Audi Quattro 200, finished second while Indians Kulbir Chauhan and Sukhi Sekhon, in a Maruti Gypsy, were third.

ROWING

Asian Championships

Collecting seven gold medals out of 14 events, in both men's and women's sections, China proved supreme in the third Asian Rowing Championships which concluded at the Sukhna Lake at Chandigarh on November 5. DPR Korea bagged two gold, two silver and equal number of bronze medals to claim the second position while Japan, with two gold, two silver and a bronze got the third place. India, with a medals tally of one gold, seven silver and one bronze finished fourth.

China's gold medals were won in men's lightweight single sculls, coxless pairs, single sculls (open), double sculls lightweight double sculls, coxed four (open) and women's coxed pairs.

The fourth championships, allotted to Japan, will be conducted at the 1964 Olympic water course near Tokyo in October 1991.

Current General Knowledge

ABBREVIATIONS

SWAPO: South-West African People's Organisation.

AWARDS

Indira Gandhi Peace Prize, 1989

The Indira Gandhi prize for peace, disarmament and development for 1989 has been awarded to the United Nations Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF) for its outstanding contributions in safeguarding and developing the health of world's children.

The prize was instituted in 1986 in memory of Mrs Indira Gandhi, former Prime Minister of India, to foster creative efforts for international peace and disarmament, racial equality and harmony among nations. It carries a cash award of Rs 15 lakh and a citation.

Lata Mangeskar National Award for light music, 1989

Noted playback singer, Asha Bhonsle has been awarded the 1989 Lata Mangeskar award for light music. The award has been instituted by the Government of Madhya Pradesh.

R.D. Birla Award, 1989

The R.D. Birla award for outstanding research in medical or related fields for 1989 has gone to Dr C. Gopalan of New Delhi. The award consists of Rs one lakh in cash.

Dr Gopalan is President of the Nutrition Foundation of India and a former Director-General of the Indian Council of Medical Research and Director of the National Institute of Nutrition, Hyderabad. His contribution over the last three decades, to the development of science of nutrition, has led to the promotion of programmes for the nutritional uplift of the poor communities of India.

DEFENCE

US Radars for Indian Navy

USA has approved the sale of the sophisticated "Doppler" radars for the Indian Navy and has also agreed in principle to sell India a highly advanced anti-missile defence system.

The radar works on the principle of air waves. It is used primarily for "detecting submarines" by "locating their periscopes". However, the system is also installed on helicopters, aircraft and ships for long range detection.

Till date the Indian ships and aircraft have used radars with a limited range. The Doppler will seek to enhance the radius to almost 24 km and more.

The anti-missile defence systems, that USA has agreed in principle to sell to India, will include surveillance equipment, electronic warfare systems, radars and point-to-point missiles. The new "anti-missile defence" system has become vital for Indian forces in the wake of rising trend of missile development and deployment by many countries, including some in immediate neighbourhood.

Army to use 'Robot' for reconnaissance

The Indian Army engineers have introduced a robot for carrying out reconnaissance in the field areas and for detection and destruction of mines and explosives. This is expected to minimise sapper casualties.

The Robot has been acquired from the United Kingdom. It has proved its mettle during the operations in Sri Lanka.

New look Vikrant by January 1990

India's aircraft carrier, INS Vikrant, has been modernised, both in terms of stamina and striking capabilities and would be fully operational by mid-January 1990.

The ship has been fitted with a ski-jump, an angled upward take-off deck to give the aircraft a skyward thrust, a new workshop for Sea Harriers, a workshop for maintaining missiles, a computerised action-information centre in its operations room and refurbished radars. The refit has increased the operational life of the aircraft carrier by a decade. By that time, the home-built aircraft carrier is expected to be ready to join the Indian Navy.

EXPEDITIONS

9th Antarctica Expedition

The ninth Indian scientific expedition to Antarctica sailed from Mormugao on December 1, 1989. The team is led by Mr Rasik Ravindra of the Geological Survey of India. He was a member of the seventh expedition.

The team has 20 scientists, 17 members from the Indian Army, 8 members from the Indian Navy, 27 members from the Indian Air Force and a doctor from the armed forces medical service.

Samudra Expedition Concludes

India's first tri-service sailing expedition around the world concluded with the arrival of INS Samudra at Visakhapatnam port.

The expedition lasted for 377 days and during the circumnavigation of the globe, the yacht covered a distance of 47,000 km.

The six-member crew of Samudra comprised of armed forces personnel drawn from the Navy, Army and the Air Force. It is for the first time that India has conducted such a unique sailing expedition round the world with a "tri-service" crew which included a lady doctor of the Army Medical corps.

PERSONS

Lal, Devi

Mr Devi Lal has been sworn in as the Deputy Prime Minister of

India. He shot into national prominence with his relentless efforts to unite the opposition parties prior to the elections to the ninth Lok Sabha.

He has born on September 25, 1914. He started his political career as a Congressman and held different posts in the Pratap Singh Kairon ministry in Punjab in the 1950s.

After Haryana was formed on November 1, 1966 he became the Chairman of Khadi and Village Industries Board. In 1973 he organised the Kisan Sangharsh Samiti. He became the Chief Minister of Haryana for the first time in 1977. However in 1979 he had to bow out in favour of Mr Bhajan Lal, his then Forest Minister. He became the Chief Minister of Haryana, for the second time, on June 20, 1987.

Singh, Vishwanath Pratap

He has been elected as the seventh Prime Minister of India. His entry into politics dates back to the Sarvodaya movement. It was a dramatic entry as he cut his finger with a sword to apply *tilak* on the forehead of Lal Bahadur Shastri, who considered Mr Singh as his own son.

In 1969 he was given an Assembly ticket by Mr Dinesh Singh. In 1971 he was elected member of Parliament from Allahabad.

He has always been considered a shy and silent member of the Parliament. He has always been oversensitive about his image.

Mrs Indira Gandhi's return to power in 1980 saw Mr Singh installed as the Chief Minister of U.P. His tenure, however, was very short. It ended abruptly when he resigned from the post after an anti-dacoity operation misfired.

When Mr Rajiv Gandhi became Prime Minister, in 1984, he made Mr V.P. Singh the Finance Minister. That was when he launched a campaign against economic offenders and big business houses.

This made him unpopular among those having vested interests. He was shifted to Defence Ministry under controversial circumstances. In the Defence Ministry also he made himself unpopular when he started digging into controversial defence

deals. He was left with no alternative but to resign from the government as well as Congress (I) party.

The fragmented opposition saw in him a messiah who could lead them to victory in the General Elections. In October 1988 the Janata Dal was formed with Mr Singh as its President.

Soon Mr Singh convinced the leaders of the regional parties to join hands with the mainstream opposition in the struggle against Congress (I). A National Front, comprising the Janata Dal, Congress (S), Telugu Desam, DMK and AGP was formed. The unified opposition front then launched a successful blast against the Congress (I) government.

RESEARCH

Alcohol enlarges male heart

More bad news for men who imbibe. A new study by the National Institutes of Health, presented at an American Health Association conference in New Orleans says that men who consume more than two drinks a day are drinking their way towards a dangerously enlarged heart.

This is the first time that evidence has been found of a relationship between alcohol intake and enlargement of the left ventricular mass (LVM) in males. Men who drank wine were found to be at greatest risk for this cardiac condition which can cause extra heartbeats and irregular rhythms and can be a risk factor for heart attacks.

The findings were based on a study of 2,000 men and 2,500 women aged 17 to 90.

SPACE RESEARCH

PSLV booster fired

A major milestone in India's space efforts was crossed on October 21, 1989 when the giant first stage motor of the Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle (PSLV) underwent a successful ground test at Sriharikota in Andhra Pradesh. The test went off smoothly and all the objectives were fulfilled.

The motor, 20 metre long and 2.8

metre in diameter, is the biggest-ever designed and fabricated in the country. It contains 128 tonnes of solid propellant.

Till now, the largest booster in the country was the 1 metre diameter motor with nine tonnes of solid propellant used in the SLV-3 and ASLV.

The booster motor burnt for about 95 seconds producing a peak thrust of about 460 tonnes. This is the third largest solid booster developed in the world.

With this test, all the propulsion modules for the PSLV have undergone satisfactory testing on sea level beds.

Developed at the Valiamala Complex of the Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre, Trivandrum, the 44.18 metre-long PSLV is scheduled for its first launch in late 1990 or early 1991.

ESA plans to launch fastest spacecraft

The European Space Agency (ESA) is preparing to launch the fastest spacecraft on a perilous journey to the sun.

The spacecraft has been named *Ulysses*. It will take five years to reach the sun and at its farthest, will be at a distance of 950 million km from the earth.

To be launched in October 1990, by the American space shuttle, *Ulysses* is the second ESA spacecraft to venture deep into the solar system.

As an enormous amount of energy is required to propel the spacecraft out of the plane in which the planets orbit, the spacecraft will be initially launched towards Jupiter. Using the tremendous gravitational force of Jupiter, *Ulysses* will swing back, like a sling-shot, above the southern pole of the sun over which, it will fly at an altitude of 300 million km.

The spacecraft will for the first time enable scientists to "see" the sun from all latitudes, including the poles.

It was earlier scheduled to be launched in February 1983 as part of the international solar polar mission. The project suffered a setback when the US space agency, NASA, pulled

out due to financial difficulties.

Many setbacks for INSAT Scheme

The ambitious Indian National Satellite System (INSAT-I) appears jinxed with the INSAT-IC losing earth lock on November 23, 1989.

The INSAT-system which is the kingpin of the satellite based telecom, weather monitoring and television and radio networking in the country had run into rough weather ever since the INSAT-IA was launched in April 1982. Though the INSAT-I system initially envisaged a space-segment consisting of only two multi-purpose satellites, successive failures and snags had forced the Department of Space (DOS) to go in for two more satellites before switching over to the indigenous INSAT-II system.

Of the four INSAT-I satellites planned so far, only the INSAT-IB proved to be successful. This satellite launched six years ago had proved to be a workhorse setting in motion a silent revolution in the core sectors of the economy.

INSAT-IB satellite, which was originally intended to be an on orbit spare for the INSAT-IA, had to take over the mantle from its predecessor as the main satellite collapsed in September 1982.

The INSAT-IC, which was to have been a spare for INSAT-IB, suffered considerable delay in launching due to the accident to Challenger space shuttle in January 1986. Finally the satellite went up on July 22, 1988 from Kourou island in French Guyana.

However, within a week of its launching, the satellite encountered a major power system anomaly in one of its two solar power buses. Since then the satellite's payload capacity had been halved.

With the INSAT-IC suffering yet another set-back with the loss of earth lock, communication networks operated through the satellite were also being shifted to INSAT-IB. INSAT-IB was originally supposed to work till October 1989. The scientists, however, have been able to extend its life.

The launch of INSAT-ID, the

fourth satellite in the INSAT-I system and successor to INSAT-IC, has been delayed as the spacecraft suffered damage while being mated with its launcher on June 20, 1989.

MISCELLANY

Population growth rate highest ever

The world's population is currently growing faster than ever, according to a study tabled at a United Nations conference on population held in Amsterdam.

The population study says that there are now 5.2 billion people on earth. The six billion mark is expected to be passed in 1998, a year earlier than previously estimated. The annual growth rates are currently at their highest level ever. With the growth rate still rising, the annual increase will stand at 95 million by the year 2000.

Ninety per cent of these "additional" people will be born in Third World countries.

'Friday the 13th' computer virus

Scores of personal computers in the Netherlands, Switzerland, Britain, Portugal and France were hit on October 13, 1989 by viruses programmed to wreak havoc in computer files every Friday the 13th.

But despite dire predictions by Dutch police, the global trial of destruction in the world's computer files had so far not materialised.

The forecast that two strains of viruses, dubbed "datacrime" and "Jerusalem", would attack some 23 million personal computers destroying stored data had stuck terror into computer users.

The viruses, which spread like a biological virus, contaminate computers that use infected programmes or exchange data with other computers or data bases.

World energy estimates

Experts in the U.S. are now talking of an "energy glut" in the world. Gone are the fears of a world shortage early in the 21st century.

Experts, in published papers and articles, now estimate "proved recoverable" oil reserves at 890 billion

barrels—30 per cent more than earlier estimates.

The experts say Iraq has almost as much oil as Saudi Arabia. Iraq has already added 56 billion barrels to its earlier estimate. Iran says it too has a lot more oil than previously known and has increased its estimates by 48 billion barrels. The United Arab Emirates has added 66 billion barrels.

World natural gas reserves are up too. The Soviet reserves are now estimated at 1.5 million billion cubic feet, followed by Iran with about one-third as much. Others are also increasing their estimates.

Coal estimates have gone up by 80 per cent in the last three years. World reserves of coal are now put at 1100 billion tons.

Dial a call for latest in technology

Indian entrepreneurs wanting to know the latest on world-wide technologies, available in select fields, would have only to ring a telephone number and get the entire data base on their personal computers or as printouts, thanks to a nationally accessible technology information system. TIFACLINE, which is set for opening in mid-1990.

According to Mr V Krishna-murthy, chairman of the Technology Information Forecasting and Assessment Council (TIFAC), it was designed to provide knowledge based executive summaries for those who want to know about world and Indian technologies from a commercialisable research and development point of view. The service would also inform about economic data about the technology and name experts available for further consultations.

The service would be something on the line of Japan's MITI and the United States Office of Technology Assessment.

The areas of information available in the first phase of the project would be steel, metal alloys, electronic materials, biotechnologies, renewable energies, composites and chemicals.

Improve Your Word Power

1. **intricate:** (a) lengthy (b) devious (c) complicated (d) baffling.
2. **subsidy:** (a) incentive (b) financial aid (c) graft (d) settlement.
3. **chronological:** (a) historical (b) recurring periodically (c) extended (d) in time sequence.
4. **fiasco:** (a) festival (b) failure (c) ridiculous plan (d) misfortune.
5. **tumult:** (a) uproar (b) revolt (c) discord (d) eruption.
6. **conducive:** (a) restrained (b) permissive (c) helpful (d) pleasing.
7. **antagonistic:** (a) querulous (b) differing (c) militant (d) hostile.
8. **illuminative:** (a) enlightening (b) representational (c) visual (d) ruminative.
9. **intermecine:** (a) stealthy (b) foolhardy (c) deadly (d) international.
10. **amoral:** (a) loving (b) non-moral (c) uninvolved (d) highly ethical.
11. **surmount:** (a) to prosper (b) attack (c) exceed (d) overcome.
12. **paraphernalia:** (a) equipment (b) odds and ends (c) details (d) unnecessary baggage.
13. **prevalent:** (a) assumed (b) influential (c) contagious (d) widespread.
14. **virile:** (a) athletic (b) noble (c) manly (d) boastful.
15. **dissect:** (a) to give instruction (b) analyse critically (c) partition (d) be picky.
16. **alibi:** (a) excuse (b) fictitious name (c) denial (d) falsehood.
17. **accord:** (a) to take note of (b) acquiesce (c) grant (d) estimate.
18. **rotund:** (a) healthy (b) pompous (c) jolly (d) plump.
19. **chivalrous:** (a) old-fashioned (b) gallant (c) haughty (d) well-bred.
20. **interlude:** (a) interval (b) change of fortune (c) question (d) quiet.

ANSWERS

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. intricate: (c) complicated.
-The defeat of our hockey team was the result of an intricate plot. | 11. surmount: (d) overcome.
-With patience and perseverance, we can surmount all difficulties in life. |
| 2. subsidy: (b) financial aid.
-Hand-loom industry is surviving on government subsidy. | 12. paraphernalia: (a) equipment.
-Mountain climbers always carry necessary paraphernalia with them. |
| 3. chronological: (d) in time sequence.
-Events in life do not happen in a chronological order. | 13. prevalent: (d) widespread.
-We cannot afford to give up prevalent religious rites and rituals. |
| 4. fiasco: (b) complete failure.
-The public meeting ended in a fiasco. | 14. virile: (c) manly.
-In the Middle Ages, chivalry was the other name of virile courage. |
| 5. tumult: (a) uproar.
-The river fell into the sea with a tumult. | 15. dissect: (b) to analyse critically.
-A litterateur creates characters but a critic dissects them. |
| 6. conducive: (c) helpful.
-Daily yogic exercises are conducive to health and happiness. | 16. alibi: (a) excuse.
-The strong face the challenge, whereas the weak resort to alibi. |
| 7. antagonistic: (d) hostile.
-Democracy is a government by consensus and not by adopting antagonistic postures. | 17. accord: (c) grant.
-Diplomats are accorded immunity from the laws of the land. |
| 8. illuminative: (a) enlightening.
-Swami Vivekananda always gave illuminative discourses to disciples. | 18. rotund: (d) plump.
-The rotund figure in the advertisement evoked loud laughter among children. |
| 9. intermecine: (b) foolhardy.
-Christopher Columbus arrived in America in 1492 because of his intermecine adventures. | 19. chivalrous: (b) gallant.
-The knight seemed to be chivalrous in the past. |
| 10. amoral: (b) non-moral.
-The scientist who studies the universe is not bound by moral laws. | 20. interlude: (a) interval.
-Between the acts of a play, there is usually a musical interlude. |

Appointments Etc.

Appointed; Elected Etc.

Manfred Gerlach: He is the first non-Communist to be appointed as President of East Germany.

Petar Mladenov: He has been appointed the President of Bulgaria.

Elias Hrawi: He is the new President of Lebanon.

Nicolae Ceausescu: He has been re-elected as the President of Romania.

Hans Modrow: He is the new Prime Minister of East Germany.

Jiang Zemin: He has been appointed Chairman of the Communist Party Central Military Commission of China.

Salim Hoss: He has been appointed Prime Minister of Lebanon.

Xenofontas Zolotas: He is the new Prime Minister of Greece.

Marian Calta: He is the new Prime Minister of Czechoslovakia.

Modar Badran: He has been appointed Prime Minister of Jordan.

Nirmal Mukherjee: He has been appointed as Governor of Punjab.

Dr M. Chenna Reddy: He has been elected Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh.

Madhavsingh Solanki: He has been

appointed Chief Minister of Gujarat.

Nar Bahadur Bhandari: He has been elected as Chief Minister of Sikkim.

Veerendra Patil: He is the new Chief Minister of Karnataka.

O.P. Chautala: He is the new Chief Minister of Haryana.

Mulayam S. Yadav: He has been elected as Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh.

Hardeo Joshi: He has been appointed Chief Minister of Rajasthan.

Dr Jagannath Mishra: He is the new Chief Minister of Bihar.

J.B. Biswal: He is the new Chief Minister of Orissa.

S.C. Shukla: He is the new Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh.

R.K. Hegde: He has been appointed Deputy Chairman of the Planning Commission.

Bhaji Sorabjee: Attorney-General of India.

U. Saw Hlaing: He is new Ambassador of Myanmar to India.

Thorvald Stoltenberg: He has been appointed as Chief of the United Nations High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR).

New Union Ministry

Mr Vishwanath Pratap Singh: Prime Minister, Defence, Personnel, Public Grievances, Space, Atomic Energy, Science and Technology, Electronics, Ocean Development, Environment and Forests and any other Ministry not allocated.

Mr Devi Lal: Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Agriculture.

Prof Madhu Dandavate: Finance.

Mr George Fernandes: Railways.

Mr Ajit Singh: Industry.

Mr Sharad Yadav: Textiles with additional charge of Ministry of Food Processing Industries.

Mufti Mohammad Sayeed: Home Affairs.

Mr Arun Kumar Nehru: Commerce and Tourism.

Mr Arif Mohd Khan: Energy, with additional charge of the Ministry of Civil Aviation.

Mr Ram Vilas Paswan: Labour and Welfare.

Mr Nilamani Routray: Health and Family Welfare.

Mr I.K. Gujral: External Affairs.

Mr M.S. Gurupadaswamy: Petroleum and Chemicals.

Mr P. Upendra: Information and Broadcasting and Parliamentary Affairs.

Mr K.P. Unnikrishnan: Surface Transport, with additional charge of Ministry of Communications.

Mr Dinesh Goswami: Steel and Mines, with additional charge of the Ministry of Law and Justice.

Mr Murasoli Maran: Urban Development.

N.R. Mirdha: Food and Civil Supplies.

Mr Manobhai Kotadiya: Minister of State (independent charge) for Water Resources.

Mrs Maneka Gandhi: Minister of State for Environment and Forests.

EVENTS

NOVEMBER

8—East Germany's highest policy making body, the Politburo, resigns.

10—Terrorists kill 19 students in Patiala, Punjab.

13—Pakistan's Cabinet resigns en masse to give Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto a free hand to re-organize the government.

—Mr Rohana Wijeweera, chief of the extremist JVP in Sri Lanka, is killed by security forces.

16—More than 650 persons are killed and 1000 wounded as fighting breaks between Government troops and Guerrillas in El Salvador.

22—60 per cent polling is reported in the first phase of elections to the 9th Lok Sabha. 42 people are killed in the poll-related violence.

27—The eighth Lok Sabha is dissolved.

29—Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi resigns.

DECEMBER

1—Government forces in Philippines crush with US military assistance, an attempt by rebel troops to overthrow President Corazon Aquino.

—Soviet President Mikhail S. Gorbachev pledges, in a historic meeting with Pope John Paul II, to establish ties with Vatican.

2—V.P. Singh is sworn in as the seventh Prime Minister of India.

—U.S. President George Bush and Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev hold the first summit talks between them aboard a Soviet luxury liner, Maxim Gorky, anchored off the Malta Coast.

—9th Lok Sabha is constituted.

6—State of Emergency is declared in Philippines.

8—Kashmir Liberation Front extremists kidnap daughter of Mufti Mohammed Sayeed, Union Home Minister.

10—Czechoslovakia's first Government without a Communist majority, since 1948, assumes power.

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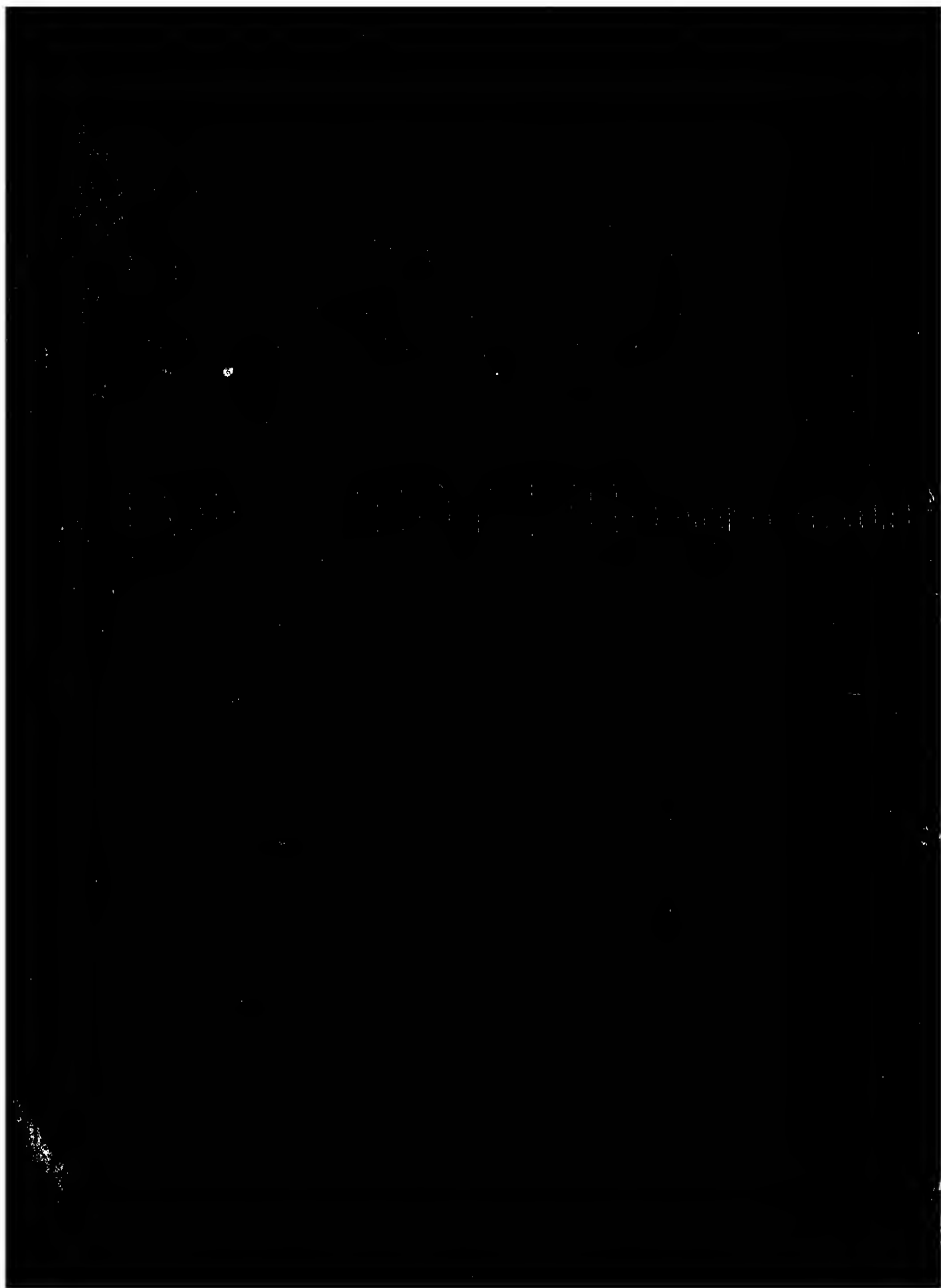
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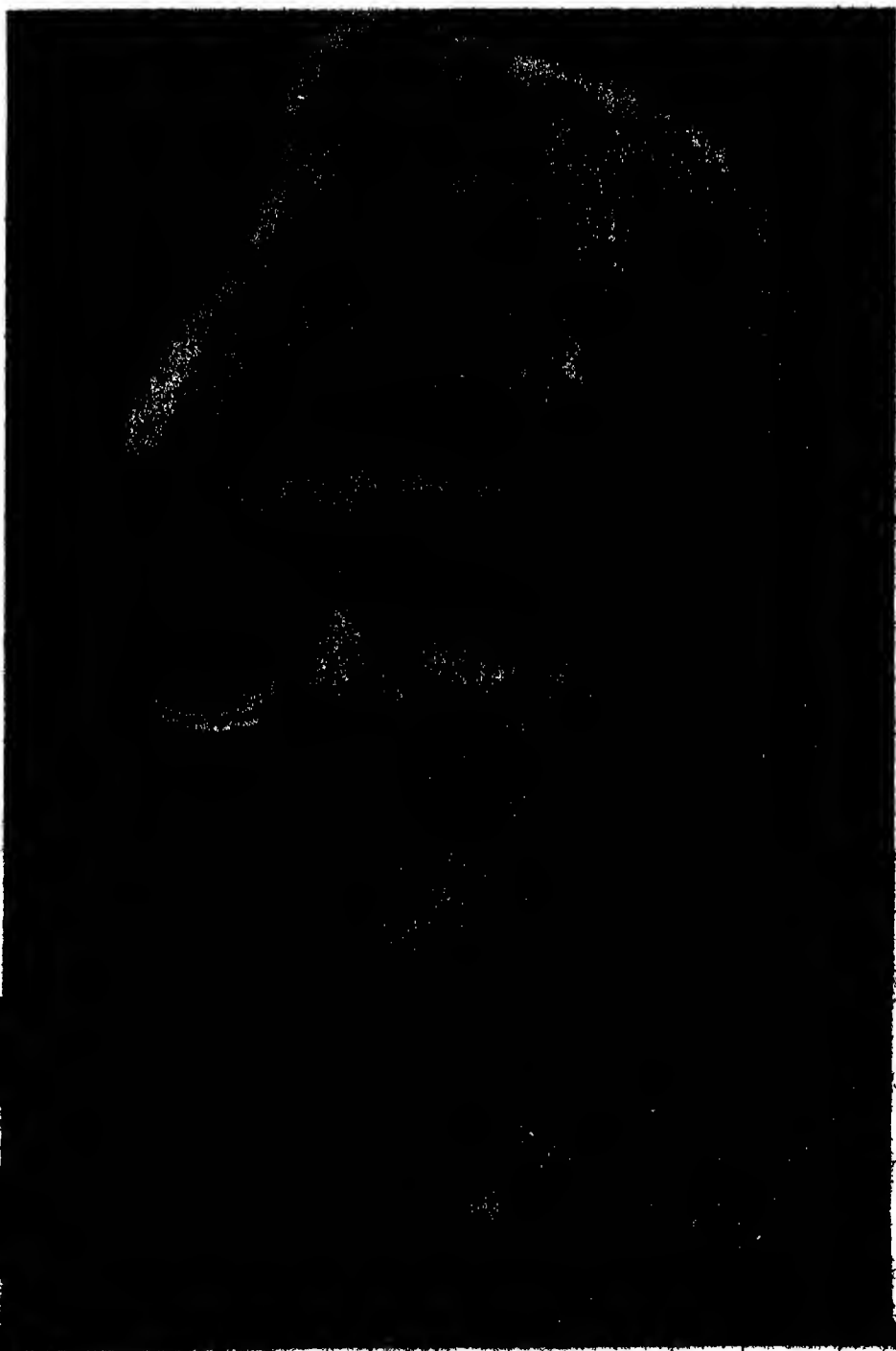
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A LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

With Heart And Soul Alone

Dear Reader,

A couple of the contributions to our Readers' Forum in this issue have stressed the importance of moral and spiritual instruction, along with due emphasis on the purification of the heart and soul and on renovating educational institutions, in order to produce better youth. Indeed this reform is long overdue. A more active and a better enlightened, as well as a more responsible, youth can transform India from its present sorry plight to a vibrating and vigilant democracy.

In recent years, many flaws have crept in at various levels of instruction. The nation builders, whose number has been dwindling gradually as a result of the influence of hypocrisy and partisan considerations in various arenas, shake their heads in dismay. By and large, young men and women have been losing confidence in our top leaders. Because of the intense frustration among youth, unethical trends have emerged with a vengeance, as it were. The chinks in our massive youthful armour have become wide.

The elders have come to believe that the future of the country is doomed because of the defilement in the standards of our youth which in turn is due to the low standards of education. For this, it is said, the youth are to blame; they remain preoccupied with extraneous activity, such as watching TV, playing video games, reading trash instead of their text-books and concentrating on their studies, besides undertaking healthy activities.

It is for the enlightened section of young men and women to remove this sorry impression by countering the unethical trends. But much to our regret, we find that in the "Plan for Action" announced by the new Government on January 1 there is no specific provision of a new deal for India's budding youth, even though they need greater attention at various levels. Neither sound character nor high degree of responsibility can be expected without streamlining the system of education and purifying activity by the various departments entrusted with nation-building programmes.

To give just one instance, the Union Ministry of Human Resources formed with much fanfare by the former youthful Prime Minister, did little to achieve the goals set for it. The budding youth form an important segment of the human resources but why, we ask, have they mostly remained neglected?

Let us hope the popular National Front regime will do its utmost to make the country a land to develop their personality and make the country a much better place. India, a Land of Opportunity, is what everyone, especially the youth, wants to see. Let us hope for a better dispensation.

With Best Wishes,

Yours sincerely,

Editor

Redeeming the Tall Promises

The principal political party now in power at the Centre, like most others in the recent election fray, made high-sounding promises some of which cynics said, were all too familiar. Apart from a couple of items in the Janata Dal poll manifesto, the others had been made by the Congress (I) itself in 1984. But there is at least one notable difference between the state of affairs then and now.

While the ousted leaders failed to fulfil the hopes aroused among the people and resorted to suppression of individual rights, the new ones have taken up the promised reforms in the weakened system with an earnestness and a speed that have come as welcome surprises. The fast pace of announcements has in fact raised many eyebrows. The 11-day session of the new Parliament late in December proved to be more fruitful than many months of unproductive, noisy sittings of the previous, discredited Parliament for the erosion of whose prestige the then ruling party (and to some extent the opposition) were responsible.

The scope of the Government's "Action Plan" is undeniably comprehensive, touching as it does almost all aspects of the country's social and economic activities. The alliance currently holding the reins has certainly made a promising start. With prompt steps to ensure more basic rights, more freedom, more information, more job opportunities, considerable economic relief to the farmers, definite curbs on elitist and ostentatious consumption and a larger share for workers in management of enterprises, the people envisage the dawn of a new era. It may break the shadows that virtually killed the soul even as they impoverished the body.

The speedy introduction of radical reforms for streamlining the worn-out system has been awaited during the Budget Session scheduled for July. The time-bound programmes announced in quick succession should serve as a lesson to the politicians shown into the wilderness by the electorate in the last election. There is no room for complacency. The new Government must be vigilant and alert to the needs of the people and the challenges of the future. It must not allow itself to be lulled by the success of its initial measures. It must not allow itself to be lulled by the success of its initial measures. It must not allow itself to be lulled by the success of its initial measures.

restored itself. This in itself marks a notable achievement. The day this credibility gets eroded, the first signals of a slide downhill would become noticeable. However, if the performance so far is any guide, the V. P. Singh regime is likely to have a much longer tenure than the few weeks that Mr Rajiv Gandhi and his cohorts were inclined to allow it.

Besides the earnestness and the bonafides of the Left-Right alliance now in power at the Centre, the other feature of the political scenario is the dismal state of Mr Rajiv Gandhi's party, coupled with the peevishness, holier-than-thou posture struck by the former Prime Minister. Instead of a graceful adaptation to the political upheaval that rendered him powerless, there is a note of unwarranted denunciation.

Mr V. P. Singh stands committed to restoration of the nation's shattered dignity and honour, but Mr Rajiv Gandhi alleges that the country's security and integrity have now been weakened. The first few weeks of the National Front regime, he contended, "have lowered the nation's prestige"; the measures taken by the new regime have "only weakened the country".

His scathing attacks on the rival party are totally unjustified. Terrorism was rampant during the concluding, and also the earlier, phase of Rajiv's spell of power, but he now contends that the situation in Punjab and Kashmir is deteriorating. His administration was marked by corruption, inaction (or faulty action); the approach of the new rulers is sympathetic and potentially fruitful. They stand committed to elimination of corruption and punishment of the guilty, which Mr Gandhi did not ensure.

Mr Rajiv Gandhi's approach is marked by pique and prejudice. He would have done well to remark that the Government is proceeding at a more or less reckless speed and that these other lands one into pitfalls. He should mature at least in adversity. A mature politician would have displayed restraint and fair judgement. He could even have said that he was confident that the success of the Front was a transitional phenomenon. Downright condemnation of rivals in politics, like Mr Gandhi, invites derisory comments; not sympathy or support. "Look within thyself" could perhaps be the sentiment of Rajiv Gandhi's critics, especially because his party has not held organisational elections for a decade, postponing them on various pretexts.

READERS' FORUM

EDUCATION FOR DEMOCRACY

Considering the disgraceful incidents of violence and the triumph of communal politics in the recent Lok Sabha elections, your topical essay "Education for Democracy", (Dec '89 issue) was very timely. With the dominance of goondalism, money power and, currently, the religion factor, the country's democratic edifice is in jeopardy. Although the people's resentment against the corrupt rulers, indicated by the election results, is praiseworthy, the notable success of many communal parties foreshadows a gloomy future.

The reality now is that religious and regional issues outweigh national issues. The lazy and inefficient Congress(I) administration shocked us. So it is true education alone that will enlighten the people about the concept and power of *vox populi*. A real spiritual and moral revolution can fulfill the founding fathers' dream of a secular and democratic India.

Mulda

A S Purakayastha

Democracy, which means government of the people, by the people and for the people, needs dynamic involvement of the people in the governance of the country. This is especially important where the vast majority of the population are illiterate and hence ignorant of the values of democracy. Democracy is an alien political concept. It encompasses the basic concepts of rights, liberty, equality and justice. For centuries our masses were accustomed to the life of loyal 'subjects'; they believed in the concept of "raja and praja"; they learned how to be obedient and never to revolt against the king who was God's incarnation for them and they tolerated everything in the name of 'karma' or fate. A revolutionary change in the timid, passive and unrevolting mind of the people is necessary for successful working of democracy. This change can be brought about only through education.

Democracy is a foreign plant. It needs a special type of manure for its survival and that manure is education.

Balangir

Jaykshna Sahu

COLLAPSE OF JUDICIARY

Your cover feature "Collapse of the Judiciary—Urgent Need for Radical Reforms" was a fine attempt to focus attention on the flaws in the Department of Law and Justice.

It is unfortunate that even this strong branch of democracy now bends before money and political power. These two factors make the judges fumble while promising impartial justice to all. Justice is only a dream for the poor and, like anything else, it can be purchased with money. Today, the rural poor generally prefer to remain at home and be victimised time and again than to go to town and seek the help of the courts. They know by experience that it is nothing but mere waste of money and time. There cannot be a worse insult to our guardians of law and justice.

Today's India, which is marked by widespread violence and corruption in almost every arena, can be saved only if the government and the judges become conscious of their duties

and responsibilities.

Puri

Sandeep K Chand

India is the largest democracy in the world, but unfortunately it lacks a sound judiciary. Justice is not assured to all sections of the people. In such circumstances can a true citizen of India say that ours is a good democracy?

When the watchdog of democracy is weak, how can "people's justice" be safeguarded? No doubt, India has attained commendable heights in material progress. But is this sufficient? Is material progress the real measure of democracy when public life is insecure? Delayed trials, tardy disposal of cases, and the priority to the rich over the poor are deplorable features of the existing set-up. If these disquieting tendencies continue unchecked, the fate of India's judicial system and its democratic set-up can be well imagined.

Diganagar

Ashok Kumar Parida

The cover feature on the "Collapse of the Judicial System" impressed me very much. Your services to students and intellectuals are appreciable.

The noted personality, Mr A.K. Ayyar, says: "The future evolution of the Indian Constitution will depend to a large extent on the work of the Supreme Court." In today's context, when there are so many demerits—delay and denial of justice, speedy justice only for the rich, many judicial vacancies remain unfilled—the intellectuals agree with former Chief Justice E.S. Venkatarajah that "the country's judicial system is paralysed".

Let us hope the new Government will take steps immediately for streamlining the system.

Patna

Lokesh Kumar Singh

NEW GOVT: ILLUSION AND REALITY

Your editorial "New Govt: Illusion and Reality" (Jan '90 issue) strikes the right note. With the appointment of Mr V.P. Singh as Prime Minister, the trappings of Mr Rajiv Gandhi's misrule stand dismantled. This is a most welcome development for our democracy. With the emergence of the new Government at the Centre, a new era has dawned and new hopes have been aroused. The country is passing through a lean phase and it would require sustained efforts on the part of the new Government to put it on the right track.

Though it would be premature to predict the success (or failure) of the new Government, it cannot be gainsaid that Mr V.P. Singh's indomitable spirits, uncommon courage and unflinching faith in democratic norms would yield tangible results in the months to come.

Meerut Cantt

Shashank Shekhar

The National Front won the elections primarily on the promise of giving "a cleaner public life". The Government should take immediate steps to bring about smooth and radical changes in due course. The leaders must show strong political will and rise above narrow partisan interests. Can we expect such drastic measures very soon?

Roorkee

Vibhav Joshi

Total disregard of ideology and morality

has been deep rooted in our society; the trend flows from top to bottom and causes moral degradation of the country. The country which was proud of its Mahatmas no longer cares for their wise counsels. Generally, corruption, exploitation, nepotism, blackmail, bullying and bluster succeed, while honesty and sincerity seem to cause setbacks. Still we may be optimistic about a cleaner public life in the long run if renovation takes place at the grass-roots level, specifically in educational institutions. There should be full stress on moral and spiritual training and on purification of heart and soul. An honest and sincere effort in this regard can help India to produce better youth and better leaders.

Mayurbhanj

Snigdha Mohanta

SOCIALISM IN INDIA

The preamble to the Constitution declares India to be a Sovereign, Socialist, Secular, Democratic Republic. Socialist ideas of the West influenced our Constitutional philosophy and our Five-Year Plans. In the international arena, democratic countries have learned from the socialist regimes to improve the lot of their working classes and introduced social security schemes. The Communist countries have relaxed their doctrinaire approach and introduced some form of free enterprise and also the co-operative sector.

What is needed today is an all-out forward thrust like the one we had at the time of our independence under the charismatic leadership of Mahatma Gandhi. Such a national movement cannot be the sole business of one political party but should involve the people from all walks of life.

Boudh

Ajit Kumar Sethi

Few things can be more farcical than the Government's policy of providing several benefits and reliefs to the downtrodden and backward people of the country on a caste basis because the benefits go mostly to the well-off people.

The people living below the poverty line still constitute the major segment of the population. The Government aims at uplifting not only the Scheduled Castes and Tribes but also many other castes. So what is the justification for giving benefits only to those who belong to a particular caste or community while sidelining others whose socio-economic condition is in no measure less pitiable?

The economic status of the people should, without any further delay, be made the basis of reservations in securing jobs, admissions, promotions and even in relaxation in the age-limit and examination fees.

Lucknow

Sanjay Bisaria

THANKS TO "C.M."

Out of the many magazines available in the market, only the Competition Master covers a wide range of essential material which is a must for success in competitions. "C.M." has helped me a lot in participating in seminars and debates and in sitting for the examinations held in by our university. "C.M." helped me to qualify in the management entrance test and make a mark in group discussion. Thanks.

Khurmiabad

Santosh Kumar Sait

May be you have recently appeared in any competitive examination.

We shall be grateful if you could send us the question papers. The original papers will be returned along with the postage spent by you.

Your gesture will be highly appreciated.

Notes on Current National Affairs

- ★ **MOMENTOUS SESSION OF PARLIAMENT**
- ★ **RESERVATIONS EXTENDED**
- ★ **ANTI-RESERVATION CAMPAIGN**
- ★ **59TH AMENDMENT REPEALED**
- ★ **CORPORATION FOR TV & RADIO**
- ★ **PROBES INTO CORRUPTION SCANDALS**
- ★ **LOK PAL TO TACKLE CORRUPTION**
- ★ **NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL**
- ★ **BID FOR GENUINE FEDERALISM**
- ★ **KIDNAPPINGS—EXTREMISTS' NEW TECHNIQUE**
- ★ **WINNING OVER ASSAM**
- ★ **FOREIGN POLICY TO BE STREAMLINED**
- ★ **AGREEMENT WITH SRI LANKA**
- ★ **GOVERNMENT'S "ACTION PLAN"**

Momentous Session of Parliament

The 11-day hectic session of the new Parliament, which ended on December 30, was undeniably a momentous one because the National Front Government not only won a vote of confidence (as required by the President's directive while appointing Mr V.P. Singh as the Prime Minister) but also because of the notable business transacted. The minority Government with majority support was offered "constructive cooperation" by the Opposition (the Congress-I) and its leader, Mr Rajiv Gandhi. Certain actions and pronouncements of Mr Rajiv Gandhi were, however, not consistent with his professed policy of cooperation.

Two important Constitutional amendments were passed without opposition. The two legislations are: one to extend reservations for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in State legislatures for another 10 years and the other to repeal the 59th Amendment which enabled proclamation of Emergency in Punjab.

Mr V.P. Singh has written to the State governments requesting early action on the Bill for extending reservations. The measure has to be ratified by the State legislatures for it to become operational.

The National Front's Minister for Parliamentary Affairs described the introduction, without any opposition because of prior discussions, of the Lok Pal Bill and the Prasar Bharati Bill (for formation of an independent corporation for AIR and TV) as major achievements of the session.

Reservations Extended

As expected, Parliament unanimously passed on December 26 the 62nd Constitution (Amendment) Bill, which extends by 10 years the reservation of seats for the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in the Lok Sabha and State Assemblies as well as nomination of representatives of the Anglo-Indian community. All the 332 members present in the Lok Sabha backed the Bill, the first piece of legislation by

the National Front Government passed by Parliament.

The Labour Minister, Mr Ram Vilas Paswan, made an impassioned plea for withdrawal of the anti-reservation agitation. Such stirs, he said, would only weaken the country. The Government would consider "at a later stage" the suggestion by the Jan Morcha that seats should be earmarked for the Scheduled Castes and Tribes in the Rajya Sabha and the Legislative Councils as well. The suggestion that the list of Scheduled Castes and Tribes should be revised to include more communities would also be examined.

He reiterated the Government's determination to improve the lot of the backward communities. He noted that while the number of people belonging to such sections had increased, the percentage of jobs reserved for them had remained static. The need is felt for extending reservation to the private sector and other spheres. All possible steps would be taken to eradicate social evils like untouchability.

Anti-Reservation Campaign

A full-fledged campaign against the system of reservations for Scheduled Castes and Tribes was launched in several States (U.P., Bihar, Gujarat and Tamil Nadu) in the second half of December. The agitation spread fast and became violent, especially in U.P. where a crisis situation developed. The hatred generated by the anti-reservation stir had the potential to divide the entire population on caste lines.

Angry students collecting in groups of hundreds demanded reservation on the basis of economic backwardness. Those organising the counter-agitation launched soon after in Allahabad demanded the continuation of reservations in government jobs for those belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes for another period of 10 years.

The anti-reservation agitation was similar to that witnessed during the Janata regime in 1978. This time, it has already spread to virtually all the

districts in the plains. It has also been more vigorous this time than on the previous occasion. There were many more cases of police firing, rioting and arson.

59th Amendment Repealed

Parliament on December 29 unanimously passed a bill repealing the 59th Constitution amendment which empowered the Government to impose emergency in Punjab. While the Constitution 63rd (amendment) bill was passed in the Lok Sabha after a brief debate, in the Rajya Sabha it was passed without any discussion with all the 140 members present voting in its favour.

The Congress (I) leader, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, had pledged his support to the measure after the Prime Minister, Mr Vishwanath Pratap Singh, said that the original black law should not be allowed to remain on the statute-book any more.

The bill was passed with an official amendment that the measure would come into effect immediately after the President's assent. The original Act was to lapse on March 30, 1990.

The Home Minister said that the Government would not make a compromise but combat terrorism and terrorists in the State. It will also follow a policy of restoring the morale of the police and bureaucracy. He conceded that mere legislative and administrative measures would not solve the problem and a political initiative was needed. The Prime Minister felt that after his Amritsar visit, the people of Punjab were longing for peace.

The Home Minister disclosed that the Government wanted to start a fresh dialogue with the people of Punjab as ultimately only a political dialogue could bring a solution to the problem.

Action against the guilty in 1984 anti-Sikh riots would be taken. Only 280 cases had so far been registered in connection with the riots that took a toll of over 2000 lives.

Corporation for TV and Radio

The Union Government proposes to set up a single autonomous corporation known as the Prasar Bharati (Broadcasting Corporation of India) with two distinct wings—television and radio—to ensure its working in a fair, objective and creative manner.

According to the Prasar Bharati Bill introduced in the Lok Sabha on December 29, the corporation will have a 10-member Board of Governors with four full-time members and an 11-member broadcasting council. The council will monitor the working of the corporation and hear complaints.

Under the Bill, the Government will have the right to make rules for the corporation and remove, or suspend, the Governors after reference to the Supreme Court. The annual accounts of the corporation will be certified by the Comptroller and Auditor-General and presented to the Central Government for laying them before Parliament. The intention is that the proposed corporation should function as a genuinely autonomous body, innovative, dynamic and flexible, with a high degree of credibility.

The proposed structure takes into account the need for ensuring that radio and television, which belong to two distinct cultures, are enabled to evolve and grow in terms of their genius while ensuring a commonality in overall approach which alone can ensure that the requirements of the people in terms of entertainment, information and education are met.

The Board of Governors will consist of a Chairman, an Executive Governor, two Governors in-charge of finance and personnel, and six part-time Governors. The Board will also have a representative of the Information and Broadcasting ministry.

The Chairman and other Governors will be appointed by the President on the recommendation of a committee comprising the Chairman

of the Rajya Sabha, the Chairman of the Press Council and a nominee of the President of India. The Chairman and part-time Governors shall be persons of eminence in public life. The Governors will be people with experience in various fields assigned to them. The Executive Governor will be the Chief Executive of the corporation.

The Broadcasting Council will receive and consider complaints and advise the corporation in the discharge of its functions.

It will also receive complaints from any person claiming to have been treated unjustly or unfairly, including unwarranted invasion of privacy, misrepresentation, distortion or lack of objectivity. The corporation will manage, on behalf of the Central Government, the external services. The Central Government may issue to the corporation, directions necessary in the interest of the security of the State or preservation of public order. The staff of AIR and TV are unhappy about the Bill. Too much of bureaucratic control over the media is feared.

Probes into Corruption Scandals

Following the commitments of the Janata Dal and particularly those made by Mr V.P. Singh himself, the National Front Government has initiated measures to arrive at the truth in respect of the Bofors deal payments, kick-offs, and commissions, and to bring the guilty persons to book.

On December 25, it was reliably learnt that the Union Government had decided to register criminal cases against those involved in siphoning off Rs 64 crore as commission in the Bofors deal.

The Government has also asked the authorities concerned in Switzerland to disclose details of secret bank accounts held by these persons and the companies owned by them after an FIR is registered against them.

The Cabinet Committee on Political Affairs was "aghast" to learn that the Rajiv Government had not regis-

tered any FIR against the persons who allegedly received Commissions all these years, although it admitted that the national exchequer had been put to a loss. Despite a Memorandum of Understanding signed with the Switzerland Government to disclose secret bank accounts if a crime is committed in the two countries, the Rajiv Government did not pursue the matter. It was a matter of concern that the former Prime Minister did not even direct the CBI to register an FIR. Instead, the CBI had been investigating the matter on the basis of a preliminary complaint only.

Government sources believe that Mr Win Chadha may face a tough time. He had left the country a few days before the Rajiv Government was defeated at the polls. There are indications that criminal cases may also be registered against a few officials of the Bofors company, including Mr Bob Wilson and Mr Martin Ardo who was recently punished for his hand in arms smuggling. It is understood that once criminal cases are registered against them and Directors of Svenska, A.E. Services and Pitco-Moresco, the Swiss Government will automatically be forced to reveal information about their secret accounts.

Threat to Debar Bofors: On December 26 Mr V.P. Singh disclosed in Parliament that the Government would debar the Bofors firm from any future defence deals if it persists in its refusal to supply the names of the recipients of the commissions and return the kickbacks to India. There would be no compromise on the issue. Investigations are in progress.

A preliminary enquiry had been instituted against Mr Win Chadha, M/s Anatron General Corporation, New Delhi, and M/s Svenska Inc (a company incorporated in Panama) and others. The Swedish Audit Bureau had revealed in June, 1987, that huge payments had been made in secret Swiss bank accounts by Bofors in the Howitzer gun deal. No Indian court has been approached so far to seek Swiss help to know the names of the recipients. However, assistance had been sought by the CBI in this regard. It may be recalled

that a Memorandum of Understanding had been signed between India and Switzerland to get the names of persons who had opened secret bank accounts in Switzerland and committed crimes in the two countries.

Jyotsna Holdings Scandal: The Union Government had admitted that Jyotsna Holdings—a company owned by the family of a Delhi-based businessman—had received Rs 6.5 crore in foreign exchange as "remuneration" from Sumitomo Corporation of Japan which had supplied pipelines to the Oil and Natural Gas Commission (ONGC).

Jyotsna Holdings did not possess the technical competence or professional expertise to advise the highly technical Japanese Consortium. The Indian company had done liaison work for its principals.

The remuneration received by Jyotsna Holdings for services rendered had been deposited in a London bank. It is alleged that the Indian company had earned Rs 6.3 million in dollars as interest on the money deposited in a London bank in gross violation of FERA and income tax rules.

The Congress (I) benches sat with glum faces as BJP and CPM members extracted more and more information from the Ministry by asking pointed questions.

Submarine Deal Probe: The Union Government is also reviewing the issue of alleged payoffs in the West German HDW submarine contract. The inquiries into allegations of payment of commission by M/s HDW in respect of their submarine contracts were treated as "closed", as stated by the former Defence Minister in his statement laid in the Rajya Sabha on April 26, 1988. "However, the matter is being reviewed."

Lok Pal to Tackle Corruption

The appointment of a Lok Pal having jurisdiction over the Council of Ministers, including the Prime Minister, to tackle corruption

at higher political levels, is proposed in the Lok Pal Bill, 1989, introduced in the Lok Sabha on December 29. The Bill seeks to set up the institution of Lok Pal consisting of a Chairman and two members who are either sitting or retired Supreme Court Judges.

The Lok Pal can go into a complaint of corruption within the meaning of the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988. The Bill provides that in the case of complaints against a Minister, the competent authority should be the Prime Minister and in the case of the Prime Minister it will be the Lok Sabha as he is ultimately responsible to the people through their representatives.

To enable the persons constituting the office of Lok Pal to perform their functions with highest objectivity and to ensure their independence, it is also provided that their salary and other conditions of service, including removal from office, will be those of the Chief Justice of India in the case of the Chairman and Judges of the Supreme Court in the case of other members.

The Lok Pal Bill has a chequered history dating back to 1968. After studying the interim report of the Administrative Reforms Commission (submitted in 1966) on the subject and all four bills which were introduced in Parliament earlier, the Government has come to the conclusion that such legislation for constituting the institution of Lok Pal is imperative to tackle the problem of corruption at higher political levels.

While clause 18 provides for secrecy of information and evidence collected during any enquiry by the Lok Pal, clause 19 provides for punishment for intentional insult or interruption to, or bringing into disrepute, the Lok Pal or any of the members.

There is also a provision for punishment for making wilful or malicious complaints. The Lok Pal shall not have jurisdiction to conduct any enquiry into any allegation against or any act or conduct of the President, the Vice-President, the Speaker of the Lok Sabha, the Chief Justice or a Judge of the Supreme Court, the

Comptroller and Auditor-General, the Chief Election Commissioner, Election Commissioners and the Chairman and other members of the U.P.S.C.

National Security Council

To meet a long-felt need, the National Front Government has announced its decision to set up a National Security Council for long-term defence planning. The Council will be set up before the budget session of Parliament to assess issues of national security in an integrated manner and for a stable long-term approach.

A long-term defence strategy has not been possible in India so far because of change of the Defence Ministers, officials, Chief of the Defence forces and others concerned. An integrated defence plan would be prepared after taking into consideration the national interest, foreign policy and other related matters. There would be no compromise on national security and the Government would not be dictated to by any power in the matter of defence preparedness.

Bid for Genuine Federalism

In pursuance of its electoral assurance to promote federalism and multi-level consultations and democratic decentralisation, the National Front Government intends to re-examine and streamline the Eighth Plan priorities. The Government is committed to a planning process that would emphasise "genuine federalism".

According to the Finance Minister, Mr Madhu Dandavate, re-modelling of priorities and correction of regional economic imbalance will be the main criteria in the formulation of the Eighth Plan. To begin with, emphasis would be on the implementation of the Annual Plan which would form the basis for the formulation of the Eighth Plan.

The Government would go in for production of mass consumption items for the poor. The Government

believed that economic growth should benefit all sections of the people and not just the elite.

The main features of the Plan, including investments and rate of growth, would be indicated in the Approach Paper. It would reflect the economic philosophy and objectives of the present Government. The Eighth Plan is scheduled to begin on April, 1990.

Kidnappings—Extremists' New Technique

After the successful attempt of Kashmir Valley militants who secured the release from detention of five of their comrades as a condition for freeing the Union Home Minister's daughter, Dr Rubaiya Sayeed, the Naxalites of Andhra Pradesh adopted the same method. They kidnapped a Telegu Desam M.L.A. (whom they released after five days' detention) and then a Congress legislator, and a Mandal Praja Parishad President. They demanded the release of six Naxalites from jail.

The Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister, Dr Chenna Reddy, offered to hold discussions with "like-minded people" and the underground extremists to solve the Naxalite problem and also secure the release of the kidnapped representatives. All the victims were later set free by their captors. The Government denied that it was evading responsibility in dealing with the kidnappings. If the Naxalites wanted to come out, the Government would provide them security and discuss their problems.

The Naxalite problem was "inherited" from the seven-year Telegu Desam rule, the new Chief Minister alleged. As many as 145 cases involving the Naxalites were pending in courts, besides 25 convictions. A five-member Cabinet sub-committee is studying the Naxalite problem in all its dimensions.

Winning Over Assam

In a bid to secure the goodwill of Assam—not only of the ruling Asom Gana Parishad (AGP) but also of the

dissidents as well as the people generally, Mr V.P. Singh paid a visit to the State early in January. The State has genuine complaints of neglect, unfulfilled promises by the Centre and inadequacy of development. The people feel that the rich natural resources of the State were being exploited for the benefit of the rest of the country.

The Prime Minister gave several assurances and made notable pronouncements in respect of Assam: enhancement of royalty for crude oil by Rs 100 per tonne; establishment of a fourth oil refinery for which Rs 900 crore has been sanctioned; reopening of a paper mill and new strategies for restricting the havoc caused by annual floods.

The estimated availability of job opportunities and the dispelling of feelings of neglect are likely to check the growing discontent in the State. Assam has many complex problems, including the Bodo tribes' demand for a separate State of Bodoland.

"Sovereign" Assam Campaign: The secessionist trend in the country's eastern region acquired a new dimension towards the end of last year with the emergence and activity of the United Liberation Front of Assam (ULFA). Its leaders announced their decision to launch a national liberation struggle for a "sovereign socialist Assam". This group of Assamese militants aims to achieve their goal through armed struggle, with the assistance of other like-minded groups in the neighbouring north-eastern States.

For several years ULFA has been extorting money from businessmen, specially from non-Assamese who have lived in upper Assam for several generations. Giving evidence of a parallel administration in areas where they have ample strength, ULFA has given summary judgement to suspected rapists or hoarders, thereby attempting to win the sympathy of local people. ULFA maintains at present that it will not participate in the elections to the 14 Assam Lok Sabha seats (and by the end of the year for the Assembly). However, its influence in its strong-

holds could be crucial wherever the contests are tough. But there is no doubt that the new, strategically placed militant group will try to cause disruption.

Foreign Policy to be Streamlined

In pursuance of its policy to make friends and remove the misunderstandings (India was accused of hegemony and of trying to become a great regional power), the Union Government has been holding talks with spokesmen of the neighbouring countries. The External Affairs Minister, Mr I.K. Gujral, disclosed on January 3 that in accordance with the changed international situation and the virtual end of the Cold War, the Government is determined to gear itself to meet the situation. The country's foreign policy will have to be redefined in the new context and the changed perspectives.

Moreover, with the end of the disastrous arms race economic activities would occupy the major attention of most countries involved. Ultimately, diplomacy will decide economic matters too. For this reason, the country's commercial officers attached to the embassies spread all over the world have been directed to provide a constant feedback about the latest situation with suggestions on the areas on which this country could concentrate.

India is now facing new challenges internally and externally. The problems would become more intense when (in 1992) East European countries join hands; the present arrangements would no longer hold good.

Despite all the talk at various forums, South-South cooperation remains largely on paper. Even the Arabs had not benefited much from the efforts made so far.

Agreement with Sri Lanka

As part of its declared policy of making friends with all neighbours, the National Front Government has made some gestures of

accommodation to Sri Lanka. It has agreed to review and readjust the March 31 deadline fixed earlier for withdrawal of all Indian army personnel from the island republic.

Following talks between the Sri Lanka Foreign Minister, Mr Ranjan Wijeratne, and India's External Affairs Minister, Mr I.K. Gujral, it was decided to set up an official-level group to work out the modalities for bringing about a cease-fire, devolution of powers and fresh elections in Sri Lanka's north-eastern province.

LTTE and other groups in Sri Lanka have been insisting on fresh elections in that region because they regard the existing set-up there as wholly unrepresentative and a creation or rather an "imposition" by India. The Provincial Assembly will soon be dissolved. The Sri Lanka Government is stated to be confident that the current fighting between Tamil groups in the region could be ended if both India and Sri Lanka governments use their influence with the warring groups. During his two-day visit to Delhi (Jan 5-6), Mr Wijeratne also conveyed to the Indian leaders his Government's decision to hold a referendum on the issue of merger of northern and eastern provinces.

The Sri Lankans are stated to have realised the logistic and other difficulties in completing the IPKF pull-out in a few days. About 20,000 IPKF personnel still remain in the Jaffna and Trincomalee districts. India has reiterated its stand that it would not like any army personnel to remain in Sri Lanka even a day longer than necessary.

It is also learnt that India and Sri Lanka will soon sign a friendship treaty. A draft is under consideration; it contains most of the ingredients of the July, 1987, accord between the two countries and the letters exchanged at that time between Mr Rajiv Gandhi and Mr Jayewardene.

Government's "Action Plan"

In a reassuring and comprehensive "Action Plan" announced as a New Year gift to the people, the National

Front Government indicated the lines on which it would function. The Plan covers nearly all aspects of the country's social and economic life. Implementation of some items will require Constitutional amendments also, but this is to be accorded the highest priority. The main points of the "Action Plan" are:

1. The Right to Work will be enshrined in the Constitution. In this connection an employment guarantee scheme will be implemented progressively.
2. The Right to Information as a fundamental right will also be assured.
3. Land reforms will be included in the Ninth Schedule so that these become unchallengeable in the courts.
4. In order to give farmers remunerative prices a formula will be introduced for adjusting support prices in accordance with inflation.
5. Loopholes in the import-export rules will be plugged to push up exports in a big way. To this end, a new three-year import-export policy will be announced on April 1.
6. A long-term fiscal policy will be presented during the Budget session of Parliament.
7. Expansion of existing programmes for the urban poor; a long-term policy on licensing sugar mills; a commission on women and children's problems will be appointed.
8. Review of science and technology programmes with emphasis on the needs of the rural society.
9. Another National Front commitment—one rank, one pension for servicemen will also be followed up. A special committee for this purpose will be asked to give its report by March-end.
10. The National Integration Council will be reconstituted. An Inter-State Council will be set up after the State Assembly elections. Its organisation and procedures will be started straightaway.
11. An amendment to the Official Secrets Act will be made to ensure the Right of Information.

Notes on Current International Affairs

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Pak Set for War with India?

Military exercises are generally regarded as routine affairs and not as threats to peace, but the large-scale manoeuvres called "Zarb-e-Momin" held by Pakistan in December apparently fell in a different category.

Pakistani militants have frankly expressed the view that "Zarb-e-Momin" was a thinly veiled attempt at Brinkmanship. Some articles appearing in the Pakistani press, written by well known strategists, have been openly instigating the armed forces to go in for a 1965 type operation. According to anti-Indian elements, the conditions in Jammu and Kashmir and Punjab, combined with experiences gained through the Afghan civil war, present a unique opportunity for Pakistan.

Indian sources view the latest situation as ominous. Some of the areas where military activity was reported are near this country's border. The various phases of the exercises were meticulously worked out with the help of the latest computers, models and maps. In view of the developments in Afghanistan and the growth of the Indian forces, the Pakistan army has been raising the strike potential of its strategic reserves. To the U.S.A., Pakistan has presented itself as a beleaguered nation facing two powerful countries—the Soviet Union and India—in a highly volatile region. This posture succeeded in soliciting generous U.S. and also Chinese military aid, though for different reasons.

Pakistan army chief Gen Beg's assertion—that in the manoeuvre he wanted to "test and evaluate the command and leadership capabilities for a war to be fought on enemy's territory" was significant. Even if Pakistan's forces average a modest 30 kms a day in Punjab/north Rajasthan, the situation could become precarious for India. Though Pakistan's armour line up M-47/M-48-48A5, and T-59 is inferior to India's T-72 Vijayanta and T-54/55 combination, their armoured divisions retain an edge over Indian armoured divisions

because of their self-propelled (SP) mechanism.

Bangladesh Ends Secularism

The campaign to end all traces of secularism and establish a full-fledged Islamic State in Bangladesh gathered more strength late in December when the Bangladesh Zaker Party aiming at establishing an "Islamic hukumat", renewed its pledge to resist secularism which, according to it was "thrust on Bangladesh by India in order to eliminate Islam".

"Islam was never an issue of the liberation war in 1971 and the then Government (Bangladesh) was "forced" to adopt secularism as one of the four State principles as a precondition for New Delhi's formal recognition to Bangladesh", the party's supreme Command Council stated on December-27.

The Zaker Party Chief Pirzada Faisal branded the 1972 constitution as "anti-Islamic" and said the political forces which had imposed secularism at the "behest of India" and curbed democratic rights of majority people, were once again out to reintroduce that "anti-Islamic principle through the restoration of the 1972 constitution".

Pirzada Faisal indicated that his party would promote good relations with the new Indian Government if the latter recognised the rights of Bangladesh on Ganga waters, Talpatty, Tin Bigha, defused the crisis in Chittagong hill tracts and discouraged the "Bangabhumii movement".

Lashing out at the Indira-Mujib agreement on the 25-year Indo-Bangladesh peace treaty, Pirzada Amir Faisal alleged that Mrs Gandhi recognised Bangladesh only when she was assured that secularism would be made a State principle in the Bangladesh constitution. However, the Pirzada called upon his followers to wage a relentless struggle to establish an Islamic republic under a true democratic system. He demanded a free and fair election to form a representative parliament to initiate

democratic norms in all constitutional institutions.

Big Powers' Ultimatum on Afghanistan

The stalemate in Afghanistan is now getting on the Big Powers' nerves too. In an effort to expedite a settlement and to warn the rebels, as well as others, that the differences must soon be resolved, the U.S. Government has stated that 1990 must mark the deadline for a settlement.

In December, key officials of both the Soviet Union and the U.S.A. visited Pakistan and held talks with the parties concerned, notably the Peshawar-based Mujahideen rebels, the Teheran-based rebel group; the so-called interim Government based in Peshawar, and other leaders. Ms Benazir Bhutto was kept informed of the trend of the talks. Among the proposals being considered is a five-point formula drawn up by the Soviet Union.

Three aspects of the Afghan issue have emerged after the intensive discussions. First, the two Super Powers are pursuing parallel policies that are aimed at seeking a convergence on Afghanistan on the basic contours of an Afghan settlement by June, 1990, when a formal Super Power summit is due to take place.

Second, the Americans have given a deadline to the Afghan Mujahideen, and the Afghan interim Government (AIG) to "deliver or be damned" by March. This American deadline coincides with the scheduled demise of the AIG upon completion of its first anniversary.

Third, the Pakistani Chief of Army Staff has been entrusted with the somewhat tricky task of "getting the Mujahideen act together" within 90 days.

Both Super Powers have apparently agreed, in principle, that "this whole Afghanistan thing should be wrapped up within the first half of 1990 so that it ceases to be an irritant in bilateral relations between Moscow and Washington.

The Big Two intend to stop military supplies to their respective clients in the Afghan civil war. In what is perceived to be a significant signal, the Soviets have hinted to Washington that they draw a distinction between Dr Najib, who is only an individual, and the PDPA, which they see as having a viable structure capable of controlling major urban centres. The Super Powers are also agreed that there should be a role for former King Zahir Shah.

Pakistan has been informed that 1990 will be the last year of the supply of American arms to the Afghan Mujahideen. The Americans have also told Moscow that they are prepared to soften on Afghanistan, provided the Soviets are willing to cooperate with the Americans on West Asia. The U.S. has basically put forward a two-point deadline to the Afghan Mujahideen via Pakistan—elect a new Shura (council) by March and broaden the base of the interim Government.

End of Romania's Dictatorship

The 24-year-long outrageous and tyrannical dictatorship of Nicolae Ceausescu in Romania, the most hard-line Communist regime, ended on December 22 last, much to the relief of millions of people. The last fort of Stalinism fell suddenly, following a widespread revolt. The transition was bloody and chaotic. The toll of life is put at 70,000 by some sources, being the heaviest in any political change in Europe. Other East European countries have also suffered the pangs of change, but Romanians suffered the most.

The dictator was not only overthrown in the revolution but both he and his wife, Elena, were swiftly tried by a military court, sentenced to death were executed on December 26. He was found guilty of genocide. All the property he had built up at the country's cost was confiscated. A new government was formed by the National Salvation Committee. The new President is Ion Iliescu. Order was restored after a bitter civil war.

Ceausescu thus shared the fate of several other dictators—Poland's Casuzelski, Hungary's Grosz, East Germany's Honecker, Czechoslovakia's Husak and Bulgaria's Zhivko, though some of them were spared the extreme penalty for misrule and oppression.

Interestingly, almost all the countries of the West and East welcomed the swift change-over in Bucharest. Among the first to recognise the successor regime were the Soviet Union, the U.S.A., Britain, France, India and Japan.

Sweeping changes: A week after the fall of the Ceausescu regime, the National Salvation Front voted itself sweeping powers, and announced the names of key ministers in its provisional government. It made Ion Iliescu, the front President, Romania's new supreme leader. The Front adopted a series of decrees changing the country's and the militia's name, appointing ministers, shaking up the military, and doing away with all State power structures of the fallen regime. The country will now be known simply as Romania, rather than the previous Socialist Republic of Romania. While no longer socialist (communist), it remains a republic.

The front's powers are extensive. It can appoint and dismiss the Prime Minister and Government, appoint the national prosecutor, determine the nature of the election system, appoint a commission to draft a new Constitution and approve the State budget. It can also name generals, admirals and marshals.

The front announced that Romania will have a multi-party democracy and will respect its commitments to the Warsaw Pact. Elections will take place as scheduled in April, and the Communist Party can participate—assuming it still exists.

India Offers Support: The Government of India on December 28 "warmly" welcomed the movement for a "more humane and liberal system" in Romania and extended India's support and cooperation in rebuilding its economy and joining the mainstream of the world.

economy. India has already offered to that country urgently needed medical and humanitarian assistance.

Strongly condemning the widespread violence and massacre of innocent citizens, including children, unleashed by the Ceausescu regime even in its last hours, India's External Affairs Minister wished the Romanian people success in the goals they have set before themselves for greater progress and prosperity.

In recent weeks radical yet admirably peaceful changes had taken place all over Eastern Europe in the direction of democratisation, political pluralism and the evolution of more representative systems. "Romania has been an unfortunate exception to the trend towards peaceful transformation in Eastern Europe", he observed.

The recent events were triggered off by the brutal killings of unarmed civilians, leading to mass disturbances and finally the execution of former President Ceausescu and his wife. The Romanians paid a very heavy price for attaining their freedom and democratic rights.

Cuba follows Albania

Cuba's Communist Party announced early in January, significant changes in the grassroots organisation and called for greater participation by workers and more choice in the election of local leaders.

The changes are described by official Cuban sources as a continuation of the process of "rectification" started in 1986 by President Fidel Castro to improve the structure of Cuba's ruling Communist Party. These changes apparently reflect the determination of the ruling party to ensure that the radical changes in Eastern Europe are not repeated in Cuba.

President Castro has repeated his well-known stand that his country will never abandon the Communist system. He introduced communism on taking over the administration after the revolution in 1959 that toppled a Right-wing dictatorship.

Directives have been issued to the various groups to involve more and more workers in their tasks so, that there is greater participation. Mr Fidel Castro is keen that Cuba's one-party regime should be strengthened and improved so that it remains immune to the winds of change that have swept the East Bloc in Europe.

Thus Cuba seems determined to adopt the line taken by Albania which has isolated itself from the democratic winds that have resulted in a major shake-up in several Communist bastions.

Single Europe Plan

West Europeans now consider a single united Europe as crucial for helping the struggling countries of Eastern Europe. This view was officially expressed at a European community summit in December, 1989, in Strasbourg. The West Europeans are plunging ahead with plans for a broader alliance in the 1990s as they look anxiously at the reform movement sweeping their eastern neighbours.

Their grand design calls for a "single Europe" uniting the 12 Economic Community members by late 1992 through an easing of internal trade and traffic barriers among other measures. The plan will take shape under the mantle of the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation. But after the Berlin Wall, and the 44-year-old iron curtain crumbled, everything from the pace of integration to the overall strategy has been thrown into doubt.

Some Europeans suspect that against the Soviet President, Mr Mikhail Gorbachov's image of a "common European home", the smaller "single Europe" structure is a shaky house of cards. And NATO is under mounting pressure to stand down in the face of former enemies who are now acting like friends.

European Community leaders have moved closer to a central bank, a common currency and uniform social benefits. They also have agreed to set up a bank of Europe to help the newly democratic eastern

neighbours. The E.C. called for a flexibility yet to be defined and most of its leaders applauded Washington's plans to support a stronger E.C. and to broaden NATO into a political forum for problem solving.

The U.S. Secretary of State, Mr James Baker, on a visit to Berlin last month, suggested a greater dialogue with the East, not only on European problems but also on reducing tensions elsewhere in the world.

Japan Seeks Role in E. Europe

Economically prosperous Japan, currently led by the Prime Minister, Mr Toshiaki Kaifu, was recently on a mission to claim a role for Japan in the new political set-up in Eastern Europe. The situation on the continent is fluid, and the world's economic giants, the U.S.A. and Japan, believe it is an opportunity for them to make their mark, capture markets, extend liberal economic aid to the democratic States which are urgently in financial and other assistance because of their virtually ruined economy.

The Japanese Prime Minister carried with him pledges of economic aid which might amount to a billion dollar over a three-year period to finance Eastern Europe's journey back into the market economy and establish a full-fledged democratic order. The process of recovery and reorientation will certainly be historic. Japan does not wish to be left out of the race for providing assistance and making friends as early as possible. Even though Japan is an Asian power and is geographically located far away from Europe, it finds itself in a favourable position to fill the breach in European economy. Mr Kaifu also intends to visit Budapest and Warsaw to establish closer contacts.

It may be recalled that in World War II, Japan aligned itself with Hitler's Germany and fought against the Allies as part of the Axis.

The U.S.A. is already in the field. It has befriended Poland after the ouster of the pro-Communist regime

and is trying systematically to establish a foothold in that country, in part to counter Soviet influence. In any case, the Russians do not have the requisite resources to refurbish the economy of the East European region where some dictators virtually "looted" the masses in order to live in luxury even by starving the masses.

U.S. Invasion of Panama

Pursuing its notorious policy of aggression against such small neighbours as continually defy it, the U.S. invaded the tiny Central American republic of Panama on December 20. The official explanation was (a) that the action was designed to protect American lives; (b) restore the democratic process, and (c) preserve the integrity of the Panama Canal treaties. The U.S. had invaded Grenada a few years ago for more or less similar reasons.

In December Gen Noriega, who has been the country's effective ruler since 1983, became the chief of Government and "maximum leader" to confront "aggression by the US". He is on the "most wanted" list in the US with a \$1 million reward for information leading to his capture. Panama was the creation of the Americans who carved it out of Colombia in order to have the Panama Canal under their control. Noriega became a liability for the Americans when a US court indicted him and asked for his extradition on drug charges. The US twisted the economic screw and applied sanctions, and has also encouraged coup attempts but without success. So the U.S. decided on invasion.

The newly installed President, Mr Guillermo Endara, who by all accounts had won the Presidential elections in May but had been deprived of the post by Gen Noriega annulling them, claims the legal right. His handicap is that he has assumed office with U.S. help and is likely to be a Washington stooge.

Gen Noriega, who had taken shelter in the Vatican embassy, surrendered to the U.S. after five days.

He was put on trial for trafficking in drugs. It is learnt that he was a paid C.I.A. informer for several years in the seventies and was Chief of Panama's intelligence services for 13 years before becoming Commander-in-Chief of his country's forces. On January 7 he was stripped of the rank of General by the new Panama Government.

World's 6th N.-Power

The latest studies show that South Africa is now capable of becoming the world's sixth nuclear weapons nation with potentially devastating consequences for other countries on the continent. "South Africa is one of the most advanced countries in the world in the field of civilian or peaceful nuclear technology", says "Landgren", Stockholm study. Its possession of nuclear weapons remains an open question. But its capacity to produce such weapons is stated to be equal to that of almost any industrial nation in Europe.

By carefully weighing up evidence of South Africa's technological capacity to make a bomb as well as evidence that successful nuclear tests have been carried out, Landgren says it is probable that Pretoria already possesses a nuclear arsenal of more than 20 warheads.

South Africa's use of nuclear power provides it with the technical capacity to produce between 20 to 300 nuclear warheads.

The country has the second largest uranium reserves in the Western world and 17 per cent of the world's total. This gives it considerable bargaining power in the field of international nuclear energy. France, West Germany, Israel, Japan and the United Kingdom are all importers of South African uranium—the basic element used to make nuclear fuel. Since 1975, South Africa has operated a uranium enrichment plant capable of converting stable uranium into volatile nuclear fuel. All its nuclear facilities were made possible by technological assistance from the United States, the United Kingdom, France and West Germany.

Another Purge in China

There is nervousness in Beijing following the dramatic anti-communist developments in East Europe. Proof of this comes through the decision announced on January 7 that there will be re-registration of Communist Party members on a nationwide basis. This is evidently a bid to purge those who supported last year's democratic movement and continue to oppose its suppression. There is believed to be an undercurrent of discontent in China and the authorities fear that the anti-Communist drive in Europe might soon have repercussions in China too.

It is learnt that a confidential document was distributed recently to high-ranking cadres by the party's Central Committee, requiring all members working for Central Government institutions to re-apply for membership. A few days earlier, a report was circulating in official circles that most of Beijing's 910,000 party members would be forced to re-register. Presumably, some persons will be eliminated, the action being based on reports gathered by the secret forces and informers.

The "rebels" are to be weeded out. The sweeping re-registration order is meant to "purify the party" and exclude anti-party elements, bourgeois liberals, corrupt party members and "reactionary" persons who oppose party policy. The term "bourgeois liberals" refers to those allegedly "corrupted" by Western cultural and political influences. Those who criticised the Government's action against students in Beijing Square last June are also included in this category.

The 1990 rectification drive is the first of its kind since a similar campaign was launched in 1984-85; that drive was also made in reaction to a major political upheaval—Mao's famous Cultural Revolution of 1966-76.

China's other War: The feared political troubles apart, the Beijing authorities have lately had to fight

another "war"—against underground gang. The Government recently launched a "Six Vices" campaign aimed at providing content to the struggle against bourgeois liberalisation, particularly in people's morals. The Government has declared a war on Chinese Triad crime syndicate which has staged a come-back in Beijing in collaboration with the gangs in Hongkong, Macau and Taiwan. These gangs had been dismantled by the police following assumption of power by Communists in 1949. The Triad societies have been doing havoc in China in recent months, causing much concern to the administrators.

Burma's Liberalisation Gestures

Although Burma continues to be under stringent military rule, the leaders have lately made a few goodwill gestures to soften the people's resentment. The country is scheduled to hold general elections in May this year. Many political groups have entertained the fear that the elections will again be postponed or held under strict military control so as to make them virtually meaningless. Voting under the shadow of the gun robs the exercise of all semblance of democracy.

On January 3 the military rulers announced that martial law was being lifted in parts of troubled Mandalay and Sagaing regions. The obvious aim was to reassure the people that they would have free and fair elections. Mandalay is one of the regions disturbed by a series of riots since September last year.

According to diplomats, this was the second occasion (since martial law was imposed in September, 1988) that restrictions had been lifted in some parts of Burma. But the draconian measures enforced by the military dictators, such as curbs on freedom of speech, continue. Basic liberties are still denied to the people.

Burma is now named Myanmar. Mr Aung, son of former Prime Minister U Nu, has called for a boycott of the elections which, according to

him, will be manipulated by a handful of "power maniacs".

Mr Aung, who is the General Secretary of the opposition Alliance for Democratic Solidarity, stated in an interview to All India Radio that the elections will surely be rigged. His father had proclaimed a rebel parallel government in Rangoon.

The ruling military group is the State Law and Order Restoration Committee which assumed power during the civil unrest in September, 1988. Western diplomats in Bangkok and elsewhere also believe, like Mr Aung, that the elections (currently fixed for May 27) would be a sham, especially because hundreds of opposition supporters are in jail and several parties are legally barred from taking part in the poll.

Pak's Nuclear Plans

Reports from Washington reflect the undiminished U.S. Government's concern over Pakistan's ceaseless efforts to go nuclear. The most notable and substantive result of Chinese Prime Minister Li Peng's November visit to Islamabad was the announcement that China would provide a 300-MW nuclear power reactor to meet Pakistan's energy needs. This will be Pakistan's second such reactor, the first functioning in Karachi was provided under Canadian assistance as in the case of the Indian one at Tarapur. The latest offer of a third nuclear plant to Pakistan has come from France.

Following the decision of the late Mr Bhutto's Government to purchase a nuclear reprocessing plant from France in February 1976, the West, led by the U.S., virtually placed a ban on the supply of nuclear reactors of all kinds to Pakistan. It meant a blow to Pakistan's plans in the energy field. The proposed sale of a Chinese reactor to Pakistan will be the first break in the embargo.

Despite the October 5, 1989, certification by President Bush that "Pakistan does not possess a nuclear weapon", the nuclear issue may still affect the bilateral ties between Islamabad and Washington. The presidential certification about the lack of

Pakistan's bomb-making capabilities (an annual Congressional requirement) has cleared the way for the allocation of U.S. military and economic assistance worth \$ 621 million for the year 1989-90. The sale of 60 F-16 jets is in addition to the annual assistance. A U.S. official said it was safe to presume that Pakistanis have not curbed their efforts to acquire equipment abroad which could be used to make nuclear weapons. But for strategic reasons, President Bush decided to give yet another clearance to Pakistan.

Blacks to get Equal Rights

Pursuing his liberal pronouncements since he became President of South Africa, Mr F.W. de Klerk disclosed on November 26 that his country's ruling white minority had accepted that apartheid cannot succeed and that all South Africans must have a vote.

Mr de Klerk was elected by whites last September on a reformist platform. The national party has now accepted that all South Africans—black, white, coloured (mixed race) and Indian—will permanently share power. "We must get away from white domination."

Mr de Klerk's Government is ready to negotiate with Mr Mandela's African National Congress (ANC), the main group fighting to end white minority rule. He feels that the time had come for the international community to support Pretoria's efforts to change. He would like to see not only Mr Mandela, but also all other leading figures in radical organisations, including the ANC, move towards a situation where there will be a commitment to peaceful solutions. The Pretoria government has consistently demanded that the ANC renounce violence.

Asked when South Africa's 30 million blacks will be free, Mr de Klerk said: "As soon as possible is the short answer. Black people will be free the moment that we can reach an accord. Our goal is to ensure that all the citizens of this country will become first class citizens."

ECONOMIC SCENE

IMF RESOURCE CRUNCH

Q. The International Monetary Fund has adequate resources to carry out its mission. Comment.

Ans. At the forty-fourth annual meeting of the 152-member International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development two crucial issues that figured among others were: upward revision of the Fund quota and the International Development Association-IX replenishment for providing finances to the third world countries.

No agreement could be reached on the quantum of increase in the quota. The Managing Director of the IMF Michel Camdessus plainly conceded that the Fund had adequate resources to meet its short-term financial obligations as contended by the US. But looking ahead he anticipates a shortage without a quota increase in two years.

The rationale for quota enhancement in advance is that ratification of any such decision by the member countries takes a long time. Any procrastination in decision-taking may impede the development process in the developing economies.

The slow-down in the growth rates of the rich countries in 1989 and 1990 after two years of rapid growth, predicted in the Fund's World Economic Outlook, 1989, is likely to have reverberations in the growth scenarios of the developing countries as well. A group of business economists has recently predicted that the US economic growth would drop below 2 per cent in 1990. The group has also warned that unless the Federal Reserve Bank moves aggressively to reduce the interest rates, the economy would drop further (The Hindustan Times, New Delhi, October 15, 1989). If the tempo of development is to be sustained the pressure

of demand for investment funds is bound to rise and must be met.

The IMF has, therefore, suggested doubling of the quota from \$ 120 billion, at present, to \$ 240 billion. India has supported the proposal. Mr Camdessus says that 19 out of the 22 members of the IMF Board of executive directors have reached a consensus behind a two-thirds increase representing 70 per cent of the voting power.

The US, which has a veto, has resisted any augmentation of the quota apprehending that it would substantially undercut its influence in the organisation in terms of the voting strength, bringing Japan at par with it on the basis of its economic strength. Any increase in the IMF quota must be preceded by a change in the vision of its role confining it only to dealing with the balance of payments problems and cutting out the developmental role, says the US. The last function falls within the World Bank's purview. It needs no labouring that development has now come to assume pivotal position and is inalienable from other economic issues. Getting the BOP problems under control has ceased to be a short-term affair and they cannot be solved without development.

The American myopic view is shared by Britain and Saudi Arabia. But it seems that the real quarrel is not economic but political. It is power-sharing. The affluent nations do not bother about the poor countries.

It may be noted that Mr Camdessus is not very rigid about the extent of increase in quota and would even compromise to anything between \$ 60 billion and \$ 80 billion hike. Quota increase will help overcome crisis by the member States, developing and developed. The US drew about 3 billion dollar worth of support to buttress the weak dollar in 1978. In the 1980s, the Fund has

come to the succour of the third world countries in trouble and restored health to the debtor nations.

Along with the question of a substantial raise in quota, the problem of its distribution equitably needs to be reviewed. The changes in the size of the gross national product of the original member countries and the induction of the new ones into the fold warrant this. The issue of re-allocation of Special Drawing Rights which "have a great potential as an instrument for the world community to create a more secure financial and monetary universe" is also to be decided.

IT'S MIS-PLANNING

Q. India has a large growth potential, but poor overall performance. If so, what is it that prevents it from realising the growth potential?

Ans. India has experimented with democratic planning under mixed economy set-up for nearly four decades assigning the public sector a dominant role but functioning at the same time in complementarity with the private sector. In theory, it was conceivably the best approach.

It was assumed that the growth impulses generated mainly by the public sector would help eradicate poverty and unemployment in the country. The bulk of investment was (and is even now) concentrated in the capital-sector public enterprises. The expectation was that the surpluses generated by the State units would avoid imposition of additional taxes in about 15 years, that is by the beginning of the seventies. This hope has not been realised even after the lapse of 30 years.

The public sector is no more a resource generator today than it was before. The profitability on capital invested in the central sector 221 industrial and commercial public enterprises worked out to only 3.4 per cent in 1986-87 and slightly higher at 3.8 per cent in 1987-88. The performance of the State government enterprises is even worse.

The State government underta-

kings have expanded their activities far beyond the perceived role and easily lend themselves to political use or abuse.

The Mahalanobis doctrinaire approach and the trickle-down theory have failed to yield the desired or expected results. Prof P.N. Dhar, noted economist who has been closely associated with the Planning Commission and plan policy-making, pleads for public sector reforms. We need more public sector activity in agriculture and infrastructure than in industry to achieve our goals, he asserts.

In his view the role of the public sector needs to be re-defined "in terms of its effectiveness, outside any ideological straitjacket". The non-viable public sector units may be closed down regardless of the ideological considerations. Further investment should be restricted to the existing units for better performance and to selected new units essential for achieving basic national goals.

For the growing industrial sickness, the government is to blame itself. The industrial liberalisation policy has accelerated the spread of sickness. It means that mere de-regulation and relaxation of controls is not enough. While liberalisation and relaxation policies have given a boost to the private sector, Dr Dhar considers that still further loosening of the regulatory constraints and the infusion of competitive incentives are essential to make them a driving force for economic growth.

Is the resource crunch the major constraint on growth? His answer is in the negative. India has invested 22 per cent of the gross domestic product during the eighties and about 19 per cent during the decades before that. This implies that the country is almost self-reliant as the foreign savings constituted only 2 per cent of the GDP. This is considered adequate by Prof Dhar. It is difficult to attribute the lack-lustre performance of the economy to insufficient resources. What needs to be emphasised is optimum and efficient utilization of the available resources. Raj Krishna said that "three-fourths of the rise in capital-output ratio is due to

the increase in inefficiency of capital-use rather than to switching over of capital to capital-intensive sector".

The strategy of the eighth plan under formulation is somewhat different. It seeks to reduce the capital-output ratio to 4.1 per cent from 4.3 per cent, at present, as the Planning Commission holds the view that resource crunch facing it can be reduced this way.

The obvious need is to re-structure the policy framework and to weave it into the plan strategy. Mere policy reforms would however not deliver the goods if they are not backed by a political consensus which, in a multi-party democracy like India's, is too difficult to forge.

INDIA, CHINA COMPARISON

Q. Draw up a socio-economic comparison between India and China.

Ans. India and China have many close resemblances and dissimilarities on social, economic, political and cultural fronts.

Both have a large population; both are developing economies; and both are striving to modernise the economies. They have the oldest cultures

They have also sharp differences. China is a communist country with dictatorial regime while India is among the largest democracies in the world and has parliamentary form of government.

China is almost a cultural homogeneity. India, on the other hand, has the unique feature of 'unity in diversity' of races, languages and religions

Demographically, China is No. 1 in the world with 1100 million people as against 807 million in India. The birth rate (per 1000 population) was 45 in India and 38 in China during 1965-80. It declined to 32 and 21 in the respective countries during 1980-87. The death rate declined in India from 21 to 11 during the two periods while in China the decline was modest from 10 to 7 in the same period. Thus, while the natural increase in India's population

reduced by a small margin from 2.4 per cent in 1965-80 to 2.1 per cent in 1980-87 despite the government's nation-wide campaign for family planning, China was able to halve the population growth rate from 2.8 per cent per annum to 1.4 per cent a year in the same period, thanks to the drastic one-child family norm enforced by it. It needs to be remembered that such a measure could be a success in the dictatorship but not in a democracy. The life span in China is higher than in India.

The female literacy rate in China is high notwithstanding the gigantic size of the population. Eighty two women per 100 men have had education upto the primary standard and 69 upto the secondary level during 1980-87. In India the corresponding figures were 64 and 48.

Agriculture has the pride of place in both countries. The land ownership pattern is however different. The growth rate of the farm sector in China registered an increase during 1980-87 touching an annual average of 7.4 per cent as against the growth rate of 3 per cent during 1965-80. While the growth rate average of India was close to China's in the latter period, it dropped down from 2.8 per cent to an abysmal low of 0.8 per cent during 1980-87. Noticeably, agricultural sector in India has earned international acclaim for achieving foodgrains self-sufficiency and eliminating famines.

Industrially, India lags behind China, while in the service sector it has shown rapid rise. India has also an edge over China in GNP per capita: \$ 300 and \$ 290 respectively in 1987. But in GDP China has outdone India with an annual average growth rate of 10.4 per cent leaving India behind with just 4.6 per cent growth rate in 1980s. India's cultural complexity has acted as a drag on achieving a faster rate of growth as against China's social engineering.

It seems that both India and China will vie with each other to emerge as a political and economic power to be reckoned with in the comity of nations.

Caste Factor in Politics

In the centuries gone by, caste helped in strengthening India's social system, though it had the seeds of decay in it. The caste system tended to perpetuate injustices and inequalities. Since no society can have a durable basis if it contains many inequalities, the caste set-up could not ensure either justice or an equitable social and economic system. The irony of it was that even though repeated warnings were given by the country's great men against the grave consequences of rigidity, the caste set-up not only persisted but also became stronger as time passed. Its stranglehold gripped almost every aspect of life in the country.

Caste, as Jawaharlal Nehru said, is the symbol and embodiment of exclusiveness among the Hindus. The other communities are fortunately free from this malpractice. Caste and its inevitable sequel have certainly hindered the growth and development of Indian society. Many social and national weaknesses stem from this system; in fact, there is a dismal hierarchy resulting from caste and creed distinctions. In old days the Brahmins were regarded by and large, as men of learning and gravity; the Kshatriyas had the reputation of warriors even in the days of decadence and decline; the trading class formed the third segment, while the fourth, the Shudras, were people who did menial work.

The traditional distinctions have now lost their force; we find the Brahmins and the Kshatriya, and of course the Shudras (at one time regarded as the Scheduled Castes) doing work which their ancestors did not. While the disappearance of caste rigidity is to be welcomed, the continuing exploitation of the label for various purposes is a deplorable development. Much is now done, or claimed to be done, for and on behalf of those who are categorised as members of the Scheduled Castes and

Scheduled Tribes. These sections of the country's population have now assumed much importance and have been extensively wooed by the various political parties for their own ends, especially to secure their votes at election time. The wooing of these castes and tribes is in fact being done on a competitive basis, one party outdoing the other in offering them reservation of seats in educational institutions, services, and also in the various legislatures.

During 1989 several caste rallies were held at important centres, such as New Delhi. Rallies have in fact become political manifestations of the process of propagating and safeguarding the caste interests and of building up their separate leadership. Some of the larger rallies have led the organisers and leaders to form bargaining counters and extend political influence in areas where such influence is considered vital for political success.

Party plank: The ruling party, before the 1989 general elections, for instance, repeatedly emphasised its resolve to continue the scheme of job reservations for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and to pay greater attention to their welfare. Massive public relations programmes were devised, and propagated for the various caste groups which are easily identifiable and approachable. So anxious were the ruling party leaders to ensure the political support of the Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and other backward classes, which together form more than half the population, that for many months a special cell was working in the then Prime Minister's office on drawing a detailed caste map of the country.

Several local influences play a notable part in determining the role which the Scheduled Castes play in politics, especially during elections. But the caste configuration and the

broad composition of the population directly concerned call for special notice. The overall proportion of "forward" Hindu castes is only 17.16 per cent of the country's total population, while the Scheduled Castes (SCs) constitute about 15 per cent; together, the SCs and the STs (Scheduled Tribes) outnumber the "forward" Hindu castes by 28 per cent. Even more significant is the number of what are called the "Other Backward Hindu Castes" (OBCs) who constitute nearly 43.7 per cent of the country's population.

In this huge country the hold of the caste factor, and of religion generally, varies from region to region, depending upon traditions and the impact of modern modes of life and thought. Moreover, the contrast in the composition and influence explains several social and political phenomena. In the South the three major caste groups are: Brahmins, non-Brahmins, the SCs and STs. The Brahmins dominate the services and the region's cultural life, especially the Tamil region. In the North, particularly U.P. and Bihar, the Kayasths dominate and have relegated the Brahmins to the second place in the services and also in the sphere of education.

There is greater tolerance of caste differences in some States. In U.P. much violence, fierceness and rivalry in the political arena may be ascribed to the caste factor. In the Eastern region (West Bengal and the north-eastern States) the hold of caste is much weaker; more important in that area are regional and ethnic loyalties. For the absence of caste vigour in these States there are several explanations: Communists do not believe in, and do not practise, the caste system, nor do the Christians who constitute a fairly large number in the north-eastern States, such as Nagaland and Mizoram.

The question has often been asked: The so-called "forward" castes, which comprise only 17.6 per cent of the population, virtually monopolise 70 to 80 per cent of the positions of power and patronage, but why is the disparity not redressed? The persistent disparity is given as the main justification for the frequent protests and agitations for a fair share of posts and other privileges.

62nd Amendment: Understandably, all political parties in Parliament gave their support to the 62nd Constitution (Amendment) Bill which extends by 10 years the reservation of seats for SCs and STs in the Lok Sabha and the State Assemblies, which was finally approved on December 27, 1989. It was the first piece of legislation by the National Front Government. In December, however, a jarring note was struck by the anti-reservation agitation in Bihar, Gujarat, U.P., Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu. In Gujarat a five-month long agitation was prompted by the dominant Baniyas and Patels. The caste concessions have split the student community into two blocks—the losers and the gainers. The issue has led to much violence in States such as Gujarat.

The factual position is that these reservations have been provided under various Articles of the Constitution—16 (4), 46 and 335—which do not prescribe any time limit for the relevant legislation. The reservations under Article 334 have, however, a time-limit of 10 years beginning from January 26, 1950. The system will continue under the new amendment until January 19, 2000 A.D. Further extension of reservations is almost certain even in the next century.

The fact is that vested interests have developed in perpetuating, or at any rate continuing indefinitely, the practice of giving various concessions to members of backward castes. It would not be correct to presume that the real beneficiaries of the system are the deserving people. There have been many instances of persons securing false certificates, signed by Sarpanches, M.L.A.s and other influential people, in order to

show that they are members of SCs and STs and hence entitled to preferential treatment.

In the arena of politics the caste factor has been exploited in different ways, not only by the various parties but also by the same party by adopting conflicting slogans to suit the occasion and the region. For instance, the Congress (I) disapproved of the caste card in the 1980 poll when Mrs Indira Gandhi staged a significant come-back. While the late Mr Charan Singh, the leader of the masses in U.P., played up the caste factor, (Jats and Kisans) Mrs Gandhi projected herself as a leader above castes, and she won. In the same election, however, the Congress (I) adopted the slogan: "Brahmins and Harijans are brothers, where did these backward classes come from?" A flexible stand on this crucial issue and a manoeuvrability to suit the occasion have paid dividends. The electorate is taken in by the leaders' charisma and often forgets the basic issues.

AJGAR formulation: The irrepressible Devi Lal coined the title AJGAR (Ahir-Gujjar-Rajput). Mr V.P. Singh went all out to woo the backward castes. The Rajputs, added to the categories of the Other Backward Classes (OBCs) carried the party through. The previous election analysis shows that on almost all occasions the Harijans have backed the Congress. In 1989 there was talk of "Thakur Raj" in some areas, placing the others at a disadvantage.

Many observers described the Brahmin-Harijan combine as the real electoral backbone of the Congress (I), assuring it about 25 per cent of the total votes. The party tried to break the AJGAR fortress by organising the Gujjars, but the latter are small in number. The Jat vote was out of the Congress tally in any case. Together with the Rajputs they triumphed, much to the discomfort of the Congress (I) and its leaders. Mr Chandra Shekhar is a leader of the Thakurs, but he is now operating from the sidelines because of his personal dislike of Mr V.P. Singh.

Early in September, 1989, a new organisation, the Rashtriya Gujjar

Vikas Manch, demonstrated its strength through a rally on New Delhi's Boat Club lawns. A few months earlier, a Gujjar Sammelan had been organised in Haryana. The irony of the caste factor's predominance is that all the political parties, including those which openly don the caste mantle, stand committed to the ideals of secularism. But the various political parties, especially the Congress (I), have been at this game of appeasing caste groups since long. Reservations on a caste basis have been increasing instead of decreasing as was initially expected.

The extent to which some of the caste groups can go in seeking concessions can be judged from the list of demands made by the Gujjars who form a sizable community spread over J & K, Punjab, Haryana, U.P. and Madhya Pradesh, and constituting a substantial vote bank, like Jats, Thakurs and Rajputs. The Gujjar Panchayat sought at its recent session a separate Gujjar Regiment, reserved legislative constituencies in Gujjar majority areas, reserved quota in government jobs for the community, and the setting up of a university for the promotion of Gujjar culture and traditions. An interesting complaint the Gujjars made was that they were being discriminated against probably because they were a secular community comprising Hindus, Muslims, Sikhs and Jains. Obviously, every caste seeks to play its separatist card, giving the go-by to secularism.

When most people have started thinking on sectarian lines and when the various governments seek constantly to build up vote banks by every means possible, it is not surprising that the caste factor is becoming more important politically. If the economic factor had been stressed instead of the parentage and birth, the caste issue would not have become a taint on Indian polity. In today's political set-up, every government seeks electoral benefit in each direction. There is a dearth of national heroes; instead, there is a surfeit of caste and community heroes having limited vision. As a result, genuine democracy receives a setback.

Poverty, Population and Public Health

Poverty chasing population; population chasing public health and each trying to overtake the other, is India's sad story of 'Population Explosion' and 'Human Development'. No other problem since independence has posed such a stupendous challenge to the planners and policy-makers as the run-away acceleration of numbers casting their ugly shadows on every aspect of our national life, whether it be agriculture, industry, education, health, law and order, employment, housing etc, that calls for instant attention and action by the powers that be. While preparations for the 1991 census are already under way, India's population, which was 342 million in 1947, crossed the 800 million mark in December 1988. The Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare is rightly concerned that India with only 2.4 per cent of the world's land area now accounts for over 15 per cent of the global population. This alarming fact of phenomenal increase in our population should make us sit up and cause many a sleepless night to all those who wish India well on her way to the 21st century.

This is an admitted fact that while contraceptive use has increased during the past few decades, the birth-rate has not shown a matching decline. Available data indicates that the couple protection rate (CPR) for eligible couples using family planning methods has increased significantly but the crude birth-rate (CBR) remained stable from 1977 to 1987. This may be due to the fact that while contraception affects marital fertility, the crude birth rate is affected not only by marital fertility, but also by various socio-demographic factors like age group, changes in marriage patterns, proportion of women of child-bearing age, and the effective and continuation of contraceptive methods. India's population, even with its extensive family planning-cum-welfare, is growing nearly at the

rate of 17 lakh per month and if India's fertility level remains at its present level, its population would touch the staggering and mind-boggling figure of 1000 million by the end of this century.

Most people accept the concept that the population explosion is based on a decline in death rates, not on a rise in birth rates. The literature concerning developing countries is replete with arguments by economists, demographers, sociologists, politicians, and public health officials that, by substantially lowering death rates and thus increasing the number of survivors, public health techniques, though still inadequate and inaccessible in many cases, are responsible for the population crisis. As a result, medical people are now becoming increasingly interested in the technology and mass distribution of contraceptive techniques.

The ever increasing population pressure in the under-developed countries and the provision of minimum facilities for public-health programmes, have invited the attention and interest of World Agencies more than once. The World Health Organisation in one of its recent reports has pointed out that forty per cent of the population in south and east Asia—India, Bangladesh, Indonesia, Nepal and Sri Lanka—is characterised as having "serious health problems". The diseases most prevalent and causing the greatest number of fatalities were diarrhoea, tuberculosis, dengue, measles and malaria. The 1989 World Population Report by the UNFPA has once again focussed on women, who continue to be at the receiving end, whether the problem is of an over-sized family or an under-sized one. The Report examines the interaction between the productive and reproductive roles of women and points out that the two are inextricably linked. Further, it compiles statistics to tell the sad story of women in

developing/underdeveloped countries. Some 500,000 women die annually in the world because of child birth. The number of women dying after illegal abortion is a sickening figure of 200,000. The situation in rural India, where health-care facilities are poor, is dismal. More women die of child-bearing in India in a month than in all the developed countries of the world in a year. The World Bank Report (1988) recommends that the surest and in fact the only way to lift India out of poverty is to educate and enhance the status of women.

Women in India as a group are more vulnerable than men to the extremes of poverty and its consequences in terms of education, employment, wages, health care and mortality rates. The report further says that 35 per cent of Indian households below the poverty line are headed by women, and, in most cases, are thus dependent exclusively on female income. Therefore making women more productive and more effective earners, will not only reduce their dependency and enhance their status and security in the family, but also increase the share of family income allocated to providing food and health care to children, improve male and female child survival and increase family investment in education for their daughters, and reduce fertility and slow population growth.

We must seek and find human solutions to population problems which are essentially the problems of ordinary men and women who have a recognisable identity as members of a family group. While planning any action, it is necessary to remember that we are not dealing with things but with men and women. Second, no policy can be effectively formulated and implemented in isolation, but always as an integral part of the total socio-economic development strategy of the country.

Stability or Chaos? Crucial Year for India

With a hung Parliament for the first time in India's history and a minority government dependent on both the Right (BJP) and the Left (CPM) for survival, the question being asked in the country, as well as abroad, is: How long will the National Front ministry last?

There is no doubt that the new Government's position is fragile, not only because of inadequate numbers but also because the parties supporting it "from outside" are contradictory political forces. Some of their commitments to the electorate, as specified in their manifestos, seem irreconcilable.

But 1990 has to be a year of political and economic transformation. It is a crucial year from many stand-points. The political parties which are a part of the new set-up, directly or indirectly, are on trial.

This feature provides an assessment of the situation and the likely developments in the 1990s

I. Introduction

Coalitions and minority governments backed by groups and parties which do not form part of the ministry are not novel or altogether new devices. There have been successful coalitions in some European countries. In India itself coalitions have functioned in West Bengal and Kerala. Mrs. Indira Gandhi herself led a minority government following the split in the Congress in 1968 until she scored a notable victory in 1971. Nor is it necessary that the partners in a coalition, or supporters from outside, should have a common ideology. The Leftists have been coalition partners with the Muslim League for many years in Kerala,

although these two parties have always represented conflicting ideologies and different interests. The Leftists are secular; the League is apparently communal.

It is true, however, that neither a coalition of opposite parties nor a formulation under which the group in power is a minority by itself and dependent for survival on others subscribing to a different ideology and standing on a different programme can provide a really effective administration. There have to be compromises at almost every step; some times the main aims get diffused in the process of continuing in office somehow. Political understandings often turn out to be provisional arrangements for overcoming a particular crisis situation.

A dependable majority which will not threaten withdrawal on any pretext and always assure support is, therefore, indispensable for a successful and popular government. But because of the confusing and ambiguous verdict given by the electorate in the November, 1989, elections, a stable and durable government has become, in the view of many political analysts, a doubtful proposition. Because of the nature of the political factors in operation, the durability of the National Front Government, and also its effectiveness which alone can facilitate faithful implementation of the party's programme, are far from certain. But it is also true that millions of people who voted against the Congress in the general elections would like the National Front and the supporting parties to get a fair chance to prove their mettle. Such an opportunity would not be possible if the Janata Dal, the principal constituent of the present Government, has to spend much time and energy in looking

over its shoulders all the time to guard against detractors, cynics, saboteurs and other hostile elements.

Stability is obviously vital for the whole country. But at what price is the much needed and eagerly sought stability to be assured? Since the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) and the Communist Party (Marxists) have totally different ideologies and programmes, co-existence may not be possible for long. There are far too many points of possible conflict. There will be danger of a break-up or of withdrawal of support to the ruling party by one ally or the other whenever a proposal that goes against the principles for which it stands is put up in Parliament.

II. Factors Causing Instability

Several factors in the existing Indian political structure tend to promote instability.

One. The verdict of the electorate itself threatens the stability of the set-up. The contradictions in the voting trends, the virtual North-South divide, the electorate's failure to return any party having a majority in the Lok Sabha on its own tally of seats, and the emergence of political groups having conflicting policies and programmes tend to promote instability. There are irreconcilable demands in the various election manifestos, and these threaten to cause disunity, possibly disintegration.

Two. The transition from Mr. Rajiv Gandhi to Mr. V.P. Singh has been described, in foreign countries at any rate, as remarkably smooth, peaceful and without involving violence of any kind. While there was no violence during the process, there was a

subtle conspiracy, almost a political volcano that could have erupted but for a last-minute patch-up and the wiser counsels that prevailed among the top leaders of the Janata Dal.

Three. There are the obstinate militants and terrorists. As long as terrorism continues to exist in a menacing form, especially in Kashmir Valley and Punjab, it is futile to hope for genuine stability and orderly government. In Kashmir the kidnapping of Union Home Minister Mufti Mohammed Sayeed's daughter shortly after he had assumed office, is a dismal indication that the militants can do what they want, blackmail the Government and the people and create a sense of fear wherever and whenever they please. They got five top militants released as the price for the kidnapped girl's return. They can repeat their tactics any time and as often as they please to get their demands conceded. The situation in Kashmir Valley is undeniably grave and chaotic. In such circumstances, stability is a far cry.

In Punjab, killings by terrorists continue even though many detained Akali leaders have been set free unconditionally after many years of detention. The top Akalis now demand the release of all detenus. Six militants sponsored by the Akalis were elected to the Lok Sabha; four other successful candidates were backed by the Akali militants, giving them a tally of 10 out of the 13 seats from Punjab. When terrorists hold sway, instability, insecurity and chaos are inevitable.

Four. The argument that the instability is confined to only two States—J & K and Punjab—does not carry conviction. For one thing, every act of lawlessness, like every communal riot, has echoes and repercussions in other parts of the country. This creates a vicious circle.

Five. The factors that led to the tragic end of the Janata Party Government in 1979 were stated to be blind and excessive personal ambitions, the use of money and muscle power and endless machinations by some top politicians and their henchmen. Many people fear that the factors that proved disastrous

during 1977-79 may reappear. If this proves true and history repeats itself, stability of the administration would remain an elusive dream.

Even as things are, there are distinct undercurrents of instability which may gather momentum as the weeks pass. Many of the groups are vulnerable to pressure; new alignments and re-alignments generally materialise in fluid situations. When the ambitions of politicians remain unrealised, they begin to have second thoughts on their partners and allies.

However, there is one legal obstacle still in force for checking political horse trading and switch in loyalty—the Anti-Defection Act. This legislation was passed by Parliament early in 1985. It prevents traffic, to and from, between political parties, whether in power or in the opposition. If this law had not been on the statute-book, the Janata Dal would not have remained in a minority in the Lok Sabha; several M.P.s, lured by the prospects of getting a share of the loaves and fishes of office, would have jumped on the band-wagon instead of getting marginalised.

The Congress (I), as the largest party in the House, would have been able to tempt many M.P.s belonging to other parties, and also the independents, to join it. Money power, political patronage and the attractions of office would have created a truly chaotic situation. Tumcoats would have made nonsense of the electorate's verdict. At present the verdict stands and is being respected.

So the strength of various parties will remain unchanged—until there is a fresh election and a clearer electoral verdict that would ensure the emergence of a majority party and an opposition of sizable strength. A strong vocal opposition, as is well known, is necessary for an efficient government; it keeps the ruling party constantly on its toes.

III. National Consensus

The popularity and effectiveness of a government depend on certain basic factors, the most important being the whole-hearted sup-

port and active (not passive) consent of the people. This consent can be ensured only through large-scale and continuous consultations at various levels and the consequent widespread agreement; in other words, a national consensus. The concept of national consensus is highly commendable, but in the context of diverse and conflicting interests, contrary pulls and pressures, finding a national consensus is a difficult task.

Mr V.P. Singh made it clear right at the start of his regime that securing a national consensus on vital issues affecting the country would be one of his main aims. This would inculcate, among the political parties and the people generally, a sense of participation in the democratic processes. That would mark a long overdue change which would certainly contribute to the Government's stability and popularity.

Mr Rajiv Gandhi's regime was disapproved by the people precisely because of this basic flaw. His style of functioning was undemocratic. He specialised in unilateral pronouncements of policies and development programmes drawn up for him by a small coterie of advisers who were not in contact with the masses. These advisers also isolated him from the people, even though he toured the country extensively and addressed numerous public meetings attended by specially brought audiences. In essence, these were formal functions and lacked spontaneity. The irony of it was that Mr Rajiv Gandhi acquired the reputation of being the most inaccessible Indian Prime Minister to date. He bypassed and ignored his Council of Ministers even to a greater degree than Mrs Indira Gandhi. Both he and Mrs Gandhi pursued the cult of personality and dynastic rule with a vengeance. Nobody else mattered; it was the Prime Minister at every function. The leaders of the opposition parties, instead of being consulted (as is the case in Britain and also in the U.S.A) were repeatedly ignored. They were even described as "traitors" and anti-patriotic people.

On the other hand, Mr V.P. Singh's technique, well-conceived and likely to bear fruit, is that of meet-

ing people freely, chalking out measures after thorough discussions and consultations with leaders of various shades of opinion. The aim is to carry them along in the formulation and implementation of governmental policies. Legitimacy of policy decisions is thus assured and democratic governance, as opposed to autocratic, one-sided administration, has been made possible.

IV. BJP Holds the Key

With 88 seats in the Lok Sabha, the BJP is the largest supporter of the 141-member National Front "from outside". This means that if it is displeased with the functioning of the V.P. Singh administration, the BJP can withdraw its support. Such withdrawal might be indicated through a decision not to vote with the Government on a vital measure, or even side with the Congress (I) which is now the opposition in the House with 193 seats. So a negative decision by the BJP would bring down the Government and create utter political confusion.

The only way to lessen the National Front Government's dependence on the BJP is to secure the support of the Congress (I), but this appears almost impossible. The National Front on one side and the Congress (I) on the other have totally incompatible policy postures.

The strongest card which the BJP holds and which it played with much advantage in the Hindi-speaking areas of the North was the Ram Janambhoomi-Babri Masjid dispute. Mr Rajiv Gandhi admitted that there was a communal wave in the North which the Congress (I) could not counter. That was stated to be one reason for the debacle of his party in several States. Few can deny that the BJP has been riding the crest of a Hindu communal wave. Outwardly all political parties are committed to secularism (the statutory commitment was made in the application they made for registration by the Election Commission). However, the BJP claims to believe in "positive secularism" under which it seeks to serve Hindu interests as a matter of top priority while assuring justice to

all minorities, such as Muslims. The election manifesto of the BJP pointed out that the idea of a theocratic State is anathema to the Indian mind.

The Ram Janambhoomi-Babri Masjid issue, for solving which the V.P. Singh Ministry has appointed a panel, has rightly been described as a trump card in the BJP's hand; it can play it any time, regardless of whether such action would topple the Janata Dal ministry. There is no party that would whole-heartedly back the BJP on this issue when it comes to deciding the fate of the Government. Thus the BJP can harass the Janata Dal and also the Leftist parties by forcing the issue. A negative, parochial stand on such sensitive issues can become a major destabilising factor and cause political disruption at the top.

Another issue on which the BJP can bring about the downfall of the Janata Dal Government pertains to Article 370 of the Constitution. While the BJP is strongly in favour of cancelling this Article and thus taking away the special status guaranteed to Jammu and Kashmir in the Indian polity, hardly any other important party favours this course.

The Janata Dal and its leader are very unlikely to sponsor or support any move that affects the special status of Kashmir. Withdrawal of this status would almost certainly create a national crisis, and possibly a revolt in J & K which is already a sorely troubled, highly vulnerable area.

Moreover, the BJP favours the creation of smaller, stronger, economically and administratively viable States. Thus it stands for the creation of new States of Uttarakhand in U.P., Vanchal in Bihar, giving the Union Territory status to Ladakh and Statehood to the Union Territory of Delhi. It refers pointedly to the regional imbalances in some States (especially U.P. and Bihar) because of their size. On this question of creating more States to meet the regional aspirations of the people by splitting up the larger States, and giving to all States more powers, the other political parties support the BJP stand.

There is a persistent demand also for carving out another entity to be

called Jharkand by taking away certain districts from some of the States inhabited by tribals. This would mean disruption of the existing framework. The issue of creating new States, if pressed too far (that is, beyond academic discussion in Parliament and other forums) would make nonsense of all talk of national unity and integration.

V. CPM's Role

On the general question of conferring greater autonomy and more powers on the States and lessening the concentration of authority at the Centre, most political parties agree. Their poll manifestos clearly mentioned this point. There is no doubt that during the Congress (I) regime since 1979, several measures adopted by Parliament and the directives issued by the Central Government eroded the economic and political powers of the States. This concentration of powers is expected to be gradually reversed during the Janata Dal regime.

The Leftists at one time wanted very much to become kingmakers. They had realised long ago that by themselves they would not have the requisite strength to constitute a majority at the Centre; so they chose the next feasible course. But they now find that their support to the Government is less important than that of the BJP which has a strength of 88 members in the Lok Sabha against the 32 of the CPM. The CPI accounts for only 12 seats.

The Leftists (CPM plus CPI) thus have a total tally of only 44—exactly half of the BJP's solid strength and less than even one-twelfth of the total Lok Sabha membership of 545. No wonder there has been considerable disappointment among the Communist parties over the final election results, even though the CPM continues to hold sway in West Bengal.

In fact, the CPM is the only party which has retained power in the State which it has dominated for a decade despite the venomous propaganda carried on by Mr Rajiv Gandhi and some of his colleagues against the Communist rule in West Bengal. The CPM virtually routed the Congress in

the Lok Sabha poll, capturing most of the constituencies. The Congress could secure only a fraction of the contested seats. On current showing, the Marxists are likely to retain their hold over West Bengal in the 1990s.

Within the CPM as a whole, however, there are two factions, each highly critical of the other. The Basu group triumphed in West Bengal because of the effective, largely corruption-free administration it provided, while the wing headed by Mr E.M.S. Namboodiripad has held all along that both the Congress (I) and the BJP are equally dangerous. The CPM had decided not to support the National Government if the BJP actively joined it. Even while maintaining that the Congress (I) is the main enemy, it felt that for expediency it would be better to support the Janata Dal administration. So a formal coalition of the Janata Dal and the BJP is highly improbable. Instead of strengthening the National Front Government, it might endanger its survival.

VI. Avoidance of Secrecy

Excessive secrecy on the part of government has been the bane of this country. The general public is generally not taken into confidence even on matters on which secrecy is not warranted at all. Secrecy (except in negotiations with foreign countries on sensitive matters and on other diplomatic moves) is the antithesis of a democratic set-up. Normally, decisions should be openly arrived at. The year 1990 may prove crucial and a landmark in this sense also. Until now, there has been too much of secrecy and far too many dealings hidden from the public view.

The excessive secrecy and the deliberate denial of information on vital matters affecting the nation have enabled the bureaucracy to act arbitrarily and without accountability. The scandalous cover-ups in Bofors case and other contracts are an instance.

Openness in government functioning promised by the National

Front leader will surely promote dialogue, understanding and a better appreciation by the public of what the Government intends to do, what the formulated plans and programmes are. Moreover, frankness generally leads to timely detection of flaws. A responsible, truly democratic government willingly rectifies the faults before any damage is done, while an irresponsible and unresponsive administration does not attach much importance even to the impartial findings of the Comptroller and Auditor-General and other audit reports which bring to light many irregularities.

VII. Fears of Chaos in Punjab

Next to the frightening scenario in Kashmir Valley, where the situation is worsening day by day, is the dismal development in Punjab during the past few months. The Lok Sabha elections in the State are stated to have passed off without violence. This was quoted as a hopeful indication of an early return to normalcy in the sorely troubled region where the minorities and all those who differed with the militants' policy and actions found themselves in grave danger. There was no safety and security of life for the anti-terrorist voters in the disturbed districts. The official reports claim a satisfactory voting percentage, but there are persistent allegations of persons having voted three or four times. This probably raised the voting percentage.

In Amritsar and Gurdaspur districts militants stood menacingly at election meetings addressed by the candidates. The veiled and at times even open threats by the terrorists kept many genuine voters away. In such a context, it is futile to talk of a free and fair election in the State. The general situation in several Punjab areas is superficially stable; in fact, it verges on the chaotic, though there are no open conflicts or clashes between the various groups. Elections to the State Assembly are likely to be held soon despite the advice of many shrewd observers, but if the conditions that prevailed during the Lok Sabha poll are created again, the

exercise would amount to an invitation to further chaos in this State.

Another factor that queers the pitch for early return of peaceful conditions in Punjab is the Akali extremists' renewal of the demand for an autonomous region (Call it "Khalistan" or by any other name). A spokesman of the group stated: "We want complete freedom." Mr Simranjit Singh Mann, elected an M.P. with a massive majority—the second largest in the country—has taken an oath of allegiance to the Constitution of India. The Government has made it clear that a solution of the Punjab problem will have to be found within the limits of the Constitution. This is a welcome stand; it rules out acceptance of secessionist demands.

But several members of his own group, Akali Dal (M), have reiterated the demand for "Khalistan". They recall Bhindranwale's assertion—"nothing short of Khalistan would meet the Sikhs' aspirations". Some Akali leaders define their party's political goal thus: "Struggle for an autonomous region with self-determined political status within India." A party resolution went further. It stated: "We want an autonomous region in India with Punjab and Punjabi-speaking areas of Haryana, Himachal Pradesh and Rajasthan as boundaries of this region." Mr Mann is thus caught in a dilemma; a confusing stand or one dictated by the militants would certainly hinder a solution of the Punjab problem.

An indication of the hurdles in evolving a national consensus on the Punjab issue is the decision of the Congress (I) to dissociate itself from the "broad consensus" reached at a largely attended meeting called by the Government on December 17. Partisan considerations have manifested themselves even in the efforts to evolve a step-by-step approach to resolve deadlocks.

A foreign expert on sub-national conflicts made the following forecast: "Future governments will develop aggressive counter-terrorist strategies as terrorism in all its forms will continue into the 1990s and will expand to take advantage of the new

vulnerabilities of modern society." This may prove true in the case of Punjab and Kashmir.

VIII. Conclusions

The Congress (I), the largest party in the Lok Sabha, with a tally of 193 against 141 of the Janata Dal, has decided—and rightly—not to stake its claim to form the Government. Since no other permutation or combination of parties can, on current showing, form a stable government, another round of elections might become necessary. A clearer verdict from the sovereign electorate in the shape of a majority party would certainly help to bring stability (whichever party wins) and prevent chaos from overtaking the country.

It is difficult to predict how long the present arrangement—the Janata Dal in power with an energetic Prime Minister in office, and two of the larger groups (BJP and the CPM) supporting it with reservations and pulling in different directions—will last. Normally, they would even like to eliminate each other. One negative aim is common between them and is widely shared—to keep the Congress (I), especially Mr Rajiv Gandhi, out of office. But a negative aim alone is generally not a durable adhesive.

The Janata Dal is not a fully united and smoothly functioning party. With Mr Chander Shekhar (an avowed man of principle) sulking in his humble house and his followers sitting on the fence, a split in the party cannot be ruled out. At any rate, the internal squabbles are likely to continue for quite some time. The Congress (I), too, is a disunited and disappointed lot, with many partymen dissatisfied with the ineffective leadership of Mr Rajiv Gandhi.

Moreover, stability and a return to normalcy in the Indian set-up seems highly improbable because the misguided terrorists and other militants are still active. They have internal, inter-group rivalries and have no united leadership who can negotiate with the Centre on their behalf. Their depredations, such as killings, continue even after the generous gestures made to the Sikhs

by the Prime Minister during the past few weeks.

Some of the electoral commitments made in the heat of the moment by the Janata Dal and other parties are unrealistic and impracticable. Attempts to implement them may bear little fruit and might even prove counter-productive. They are very much like the high-sounding promises made by Mr Rajiv Gandhi during last six months of his rule.

To check the chaotic conditions in the political arena, effective democratic reorganisation of political parties is important. At present, not even the Congress (I), the largest and the oldest political party, with huge financial resources, has a commendable organisation. Internal democracy is absent in the party.

The Janata Dal Government cannot rely on the BJP and the CPM for a long tenure. It has to seek wider support of the people and also, as far as possible, of Parliament. Proof of its capacity to govern effectively will have to come through actual performance in various spheres. The tasks ahead are obviously formidable, especially eliminating corruption and checking the terrorists and the communalists. If these problems are tackled with tact and determination, the party in power would have some plus points.

The conviction is growing among the constituents of the National Front, as well as among the parties and groups supporting the Government from outside, that if each of them presses its demands rigidly, the new set-up would collapse. If such a tragedy befalls the present regime, the future of these parties will be dismal indeed. The electorate has given them an opportunity to implement their pledges and deliver the goods. If this is wasted and the inter-group quarrels lead to a break-up of the combination, the story of the 1977-79 Janata alliance would be repeated. The electorate may not repose its confidence in these parties again.

Mr Rajiv Gandhi committed the mistake of announcing highly ambitious projects and programmes, costing thousands of crores, during his

travels across the country. He himself admitted that only 30 paise (perhaps less) out of every rupee spent on official plans reached the poor. The disillusionment resulting from failure of the programmes eroded the image of the ruling party and caused a heavy electoral defeat. The same danger faces the Janata Dal-BJP-CPM group of parties two of which bitterly criticised each other and swore never to join hands with it, come what might. The condemnations are on record and may sow seeds of discord with the passage of time.

If the Janata Dal Government takes up any item of its programme that is not acceptable to the others, there would be bickerings, misunderstandings, threats of withdrawal of support and worse. With the political forces so precariously balanced, far-reaching reforms would be feasible only in the few arenas where the parties concerned are in full agreement—for instance, in ensuring good administration, avoiding waste, providing the right of information, grant of autonomy to Doordarshan and All India Radio, and curbs on prices.

In case the ruling party fails to fulfil its important electoral commitments and is compelled to waste energy in persuading its allies to accept toned down proposals that would do not bring about the envisaged revolution in social, economic and political fields, there would be few bouquets but many brickbats. The lot of the masses must improve and price rise checked. If no change is noticeable, the situation would cause tensions, create instability and probably hasten the downfall of the ruling alliance.

Nothing is considered impossible in politics. There may be an upheaval, new groupings and more factionalism. A split in either of the major parties—the Congress (I), the Janata Dal and the BJP—cannot be ruled out. Such a split could lead to more instability, horse-trading, large-scale exchange of money and all the malpractices that are associated with switch-over of political loyalty and the irrepressible lure of power. The prospects for 1990 are still uncertain, though there is ample reason to be optimistic.

Right to Information and Right to Work

In his customary address to a new Parliament, outlining the Government's policy, President Venkataraman announced (on December 20, 1989) several important changes in the people's basic rights. The National Front Government intends to function in full public view which will minimise the possibility of wrong doing. The Official Secrets Act is to be amended so that the people have more access to information. Free flow of information is also be assured by giving autonomy to AIR and Doordarshan.

The Action Plan announced by the Government on New Year day, 1990, contains an assurance that the Right to Work and the Right to Information will soon be made part of the Fundamental Rights enshrined in the Constitution.

The Postal Bill, which sought to interfere with the citizens' right to privacy, will be repealed. The withholding of vital information from the people regarding Commissions of enquiry is also to be checked through another change in the basic laws.

The chapter on Fundamental Rights of the citizens (Part III of the Constitution) is admittedly one of the most elaborate of its kind. The framers of the Constitution, highly qualified and well informed as they were, took good care to ensure that the basic rights of the people are fully ensured through the letter of the law and not left to the whims of the Executive (the Ministers, the bureaucrats and the police) and the courts. Article 19 (1) (a), states: "All citizens shall have the right to freedom of speech and expression." Freedom of the Press was not specifically mentioned in the list of Fundamental Rights, but the Supreme Court held in a case as long back as 1950 that the

freedom of speech and expression includes the freedom of propagation of ideas.

In the Express Newspapers V Union of India case (1959) the court ruled that freedom of the Press is an essential part of the right of freedom of speech and expression. The freedom of speech presupposes that the right conclusions are more likely to be reached through a free market of ideas. The new Government headed by Mr V.P. Singh has made known its intention to work on this basis; the restrictive measures that curb the freedom of expression, and also the freedom of activity in certain other fields are to be relaxed or withdrawn.

While the freedom of expression is thus fully recognised and constitutionally guaranteed (with such reasonable restrictions as might be deemed advisable in the public interest) there is no legal right yet to guarantee the people's Right to know. This right is now widely recognised in all democracies, notably the U.S.A., Britain, West Germany and Japan. In India it has acquired much importance after the ouster of the Congress (I) from power because during the regime of that party reports of certain important enquiries were suppressed. As a result, both Parliament and the people were denied vital information as well as the findings of these commissions. To give just two instances: certain documents, including some correspondence relating to the Bofors contract and entries in the Swedish Government's records regarding payment of commissions and kick-backs, were kept secret; the Union Government withheld some vital portions of the Thakkar Commission report on the conspiracy to assassinate Mrs Indira Gandhi. The Government at first declined to release the Thakkar report because of its sensitive nature and the possibility of adverse repercussions; then, following persistent demands by the oppo-

sition, the Government released certain portions of the report through what it claimed to be an authentic summary.

The then Opposition leaders asserted, on the basis of disclosures published in "The Hindu" and some other newspapers that the whole truth regarding the Bofors affair had not been told. It became evident that Mr Rajiv Gandhi was misled by certain individuals close to him and resorted to cover-ups. Mr V.P. Singh stands committed to the release of full reports of these and other commissions and not to withhold information on the ground of official secrecy.

The power of newspapers and journals to bring to light misuse of authority by Ministers and bureaucrats to cover acts of corruption, gross maladministration and inefficiency is by now well established. Disclosures by journalists after detailed investigations, sometimes done quietly and spread over several months to secure documentary proof to support their allegations, have led to the fall of governments and resignation of Prime Ministers (for instance, in Japan during 1989 following the Recruit Company affairs and share purchases in a secret manner).

Knowledge about public affairs, including defence deals, resulting from full and free exercise of the Right to Know, helps the citizen to correlate our responses to challenges which emerge as time passes, and reach consensus on social actions. An informed, enlightened society is vital for development and democracy. Public support to governmental actions, if they are well-conceived and not discriminatory, becomes easier to ensure if the Right to Know is granted without undue reservations. It facilitates informed criticism and a better understanding of official policies,

and it also promotes mutual trust.

Right to Privacy: However, the Right to Know often conflicts with an individual's right to privacy. While the right to know should certainly be exercised extensively in all cases of deals that affect the national interest and concern the functioning of the Government, it should be exercised discreetly when the probe is against an individual.

In some cases, disclosures of some facts may not be in public interest and adversely affect the private life of an individual. The private lives of public men are often of considerable interest to the general public, but no investigator can claim this right merely for putting out sensational stories, creating scandals, casting aspersions on someone or character assassination.

Human curiosity is boundless, but the mass media must realise their responsibility. An investigating newsman's sense of responsibility is as great as the responsibility of the Government to maintain law and order, protect individuals from personal attacks and infringement of their privacy.

The Right to Know also makes the public vigilant. The more vigilant a society about public affairs and infringement of their rights, the better. It develops the critical faculty among the public which is vital for democracy. Where the people tend to be passive because of ignorance, democracy begins to fade away. No one claim the right to enter without permission the private rooms of a person, however eminent he may be. There is a limit beyond which a person's personal dealings and conduct becomes his or her own affair, not that of the country.

Freedom of the mass media (especially of newspapers in India because the other media, TV and AIR, are State controlled and do not tell the whole truth) involves three types of liberty: (a) The freedom to know, to get information needed to organise our lives and take an intelligent part in the process of governance; (b) the freedom to tell, which means the freedom to transmit information

freely, take a public stand on various issues and argue for or against a proposal; (c) the freedom to find out and investigate, without needless restrictions, the truth about matters of public importance. This implies the right of access by the communication media to all sources of information. Wherever the Government prevents or debars news hounds from conducting probes and enquiries in matters of public interest, it infringes the people's right to know. It is the responsibility of the mass media to ceaselessly defend these three kinds of freedom from any quarter or power groups interested in maintaining secrecy and keeping the lid tightly on information that might cause embarrassment to the Government and the ruling party. Herein lies the vital importance of a truly democratic regime as against one that is essentially authoritarian despite its professions to the contrary.

Wherever the people are allowed full, unabridged knowledge about matters of national importance, there is less misuse of authority, less corruption, less infringement of individual rights, and of course less of clever cover-ups of misdeeds. That is the reason why people who are true well-wishers of the country lay great stress on (a) honesty, (b) courage, (c) capacity to sift grain from chaff, (d) distinguish chalk from cheese, and (e) patience.

Inclusion of the Right to Know in the Constitution would therefore be in the national interest; it would help spread education, general enlightenment, arouse greater public interest in the government's functioning, make investigation into under-hand dealings easier and generally lead to a healthier democratic polity.

Right to Work: For the past many years, opposition parties, especially the Leftists, trade union leaders and others who speak up for the working classes have been demanding the Right to Work as a legal right. The framers of the Constitution did not include it in the chapter on Fundamental Rights in view of its impracticability in a large country having a

huge population. The only consolation for people aspiring to get jobs is Article 16.(1) which says: "There shall be equality of opportunity for all citizens in matters relating to employment or appointment to any office under the State. This merely means equal opportunity to all citizens in appointments in the organised public services. Closely examined, it provides for the right to make an application for any post under the Government and the right to be considered on merits for it. It is the right of the Government, as of employers in the private sector, to pick and choose. Thus no one can claim a legal right to get a post he has applied for, or any post.

Full employment, that is, jobs for every one, is an ideal for which every civilised country strives, but this is a goal which is far from easy to attain. Even Britain, highly industrialised and with a small population, has a substantial number of unemployed. In India the problem of unemployment is a formidable one. Millions of people remain unemployed almost throughout the year; millions of others are only partially employed. According to one estimate, there are 13 crore jobless youth in this country. Another estimate states that about 9 million persons are added to the country's labour force every year. A legal Right to Work would require unemployment allowance or doles to all the jobless people.

While it is true that the expenditure that would have to incurred on massive employment schemes and on giving unemployment allowances and doles to the jobless would be very heavy, it should be borne in mind that the right to work is implicit in the right to life.

The right to work also implies that adequate wages must be paid to the worker. The conditions of work must be satisfactory; the hours of work should not be excessive; there should be some leisure to think and to rest. Few States outside the Soviet Union have recognised the citizens' right to work. But it is no longer possible to ignore this right.

New Trends in Foreign Policy

India's foreign affairs have not aroused as much public interest as they should, because of the pressures of national events and also because the conduct of international affairs has been generally non-controversial. During the past year or so the distortions in relations with at least three of our neighbours—Pakistan, Sri Lanka and Nepal—became evident. The flaws are now sought to be corrected. This feature explains the problems that have arisen in our relations with neighbours.

Like its predecessors, the National Front Government has made it clear that its foreign policy is deeply rooted in the ideals laid down by the founding fathers of the Republic. Concrete shape was given to these principles by Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru. The two firm foundations of the policy are: (a) firm adherence to non-alignment, and (b) the continuing struggle against imperialism, colonialism, neo-colonialism, racial discrimination and all forms of exploitation. There has so far been a national consensus on foreign policy, but the unhappy experiences in Sri Lanka, Nepal and Pakistan have focussed attention on the new challenges and opportunities for India.

Again, like the governments that have preceded it, the new regime in Delhi attaches importance to revitalising and strengthening ties with our neighbours in South Asia and to impart fresh dynamism to the process of regional cooperation within the framework of SAARC. The Government has declared that it will spare no effort to resolve outstanding bilateral issues with the neighbouring countries, consistent with our national interests. After all, every country follows a policy that safeguards its interests and promotes stability, confidence and cooperative endeavour.

In respect of the relations with the giant powers, the Government of India may be relied upon to strengthen the traditional friendship with the Soviet Union and build upon the new trends of constructive and cooperative relationship with the U.S.A. The process of further understanding and cooperation with China is of course to be continued. Mr Rajiv Gandhi paid a visit to Beijing in December, 1988, and broke the ice in this regard. The National Front Government led by Mr V.P. Singh has also expressed the hope that the boundary dispute can be resolved in a fair, reasonable manner in consonance with India's national interests. Pragmatists and shrewd analysts of Sino-Indian affairs have however expressed the view that since China is not inclined to surrender the territory it seized in 1962, India may have to reconcile itself to the status quo in respect of the boundary. Some minor adjustments may still be made after mutual consultation in regard to other matters and with an assurance of "no further aggression". But the Government of India cannot openly make a declaration to this effect.

Relations with Pakistan: India of course seeks, in pursuance of its policy of good neighbourliness, friendly relations with its next-door neighbour, Pakistan. Indo-Pakistan ties became cordial after the induction of a democratically elected government in Islamabad under the leadership of Ms Benazir Bhutto. Mr Rajiv Gandhi's visit to Islamabad in July, 1989, further brightened the hopes of friendship.

But several developments since then, including the domestic compulsions, the growing pressures of elements hostile to Pakistan's first woman Prime Minister, the increasing strength of her critics, especially those led by the Punjab Chief Minister whose supporters sponsored a no-confidence motion against Ms Benazir Bhutto in the Pakistan National

Assembly in October last year (the motion fell through by only 12 votes) the anti-Indian activity by trained Pakistani saboteurs in Kashmir Valley, the failure of talks over the Siachen Glacier, besides the nuclear issue, have created new strains in New Delhi-Islamabad relations.

As a result, the initial *bonhomie* has virtually evaporated and the tensions which were furtively fed by Gen Zia-ul-Haq have been revived, though there are no open charges and counter-charges yet. Pakistani envoys harp on Kashmir again and again at the United Nations in violation of the letter and spirit of the Simla Agreement of 1972.

In a wide-ranging interview to the Dubai-based English newspaper the "Khaleej Times", published on December 3, 1989, Mr V.P. Singh said he favoured a dialogue with Pakistan to ensure that a nuclear race does not start in the Indian sub-continent. "There is no harm in having a dialogue with Pakistan on this issue", he said. India has been going in for nuclear energy only for peaceful purposes, but reports emanating from Islamabad show that Pakistan is well advanced in the art of manufacturing the bomb. So, Mr V.P. Singh thinks a response should come from Pakistan, ruling out the possibility of cooperation between the two countries in the near future. Such cooperation obviously depended upon the state of relations that would develop in the days to come.

The tide of anti-Indian feelings in Pakistan rises every now and then, without India providing any provocation. Indian newspapers, and of course the State-owned mass media, avoid any criticism of Pakistan, while Pakistani journals and religious fanatics frequently attack India. The hostility assumed an ugly manifestation at Karachi on December 20 when a one-day cricket match was being

played between the teams of the two countries. The pelting of stones and hurling of various missiles led to the abandonment of the match.

India-Sri Lanka Strains: The Sri Lanka adventure has been described by some impartial people as the Government of India's worst and costliest foreign policy blunder. Mr V.P. Singh, the new Prime Minister, is convinced that the Indian Government made a mistake in sending the IPKF to the island republic. "We want our boys back home at the earliest", he has said. India has suffered in prestige and also in terms of army personnel killed and the amount of expenditure incurred in the military operations. The hasty Rajiv Gandhi-Jayewardene accord of July, 1985, misfired, like the other accords the former Prime Minister signed (in attempts to resolve the Punjab and Assam tangles, for instance).

Unexpected developments have taken place in Sri Lanka in recent months. President Premadasa, badly cornered and in a desperate bid to win over the JVP militants who did havoc to the Sinhalese people in south and central Lanka, expressed appreciation of India's role of mediator in the island, but he said: "We want India as a peacemaker and not to interfere militarily or politically in the island. The problems of the Sinhalese and Tamils must be solved by the parties in conflict."

Mr V.P. Singh has identified better relations with neighbours, notably Sri Lanka and Nepal, as one of his top priorities. President Premadasa recently welcomed the change in India's Prime Ministership and felt confident of better ties between the two countries. Indeed a new phase in the relationship is now expected to begin. Some Sri Lanka spokesmen are in fact looking for a positive change in India's stand; they were critical of what they described as "bullying tactics of Mr Rajiv Gandhi". There is little doubt that though the intentions of both the signatories were commendable, the Sri Lanka accord and the prolonged presence of the Indian army on Sri Lanka soil soured the relations between the two coun-

tries as never before. The menace created by JVP extremists was not India's fault.

IPKF and LTTE (Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam) were virtually at war. But early in December, after the National Front Government took office, LTTE leaders were keen to remove the "misconception" that their organisation was hostile to India. LTTE, they said, wanted to re-establish friendly ties with India. But they cautioned that the New Delhi bureaucrats must not be allowed to handle "our future relationship". The Government in New Delhi, they felt, should ensure that new people "understand and accommodate us". The Sri Lankan spokesmen blame Indian officials for not completing the IPKF's pull-out by December, 1989, as they had promised.

India's new External Affairs Minister has now committed his Government to another deadline—March 31, 1990. It is not certain however whether the ground realities in Sri Lanka will permit complete pull-out of IPKF even by that date. True, some modifications are noticeable in LTTE's stand on holding of fresh elections to the north-eastern provincial Council, but there is no definite indication of a durable, fair and firm set-up in the disturbed regions. So caution is called for.

An interesting development occurred on December 4—recognition of LTTE as a political party. If LTTE renounces violence and also surrenders arms, one of the principal aims of IPKF would be realised. But surrender of arms is still not certain. There is no doubt that India needs a new Sri Lanka policy that would end the tensions, remove the misapprehensions about this country's intentions (many Sinhalese have accused us of trying to function as an occupation force). Efforts are in fact already being made to normalise relations. The DMK Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, Mr Karunanidhi, held talks with LTTE spokesmen at Madras in the third week of December, at the instance of the Central Government.

Nepal Ties: The new Prime Minis-

ter of India and several other leaders of non-Congress (I) parties have felt that the Rajiv Gandhi regime bungled in conducting negotiations with Nepal on the issue of the Trade and Transit Treaty and other problems, thus needlessly causing strains in the ties with the Himalayan kingdom. Nepal spokesmen even raised the issue at the U.N. This move brought us discredit.

Mr V.P. Singh has pointed out that "an undue shock" was given to Nepal by the Rajiv Gandhi Government. Until recently, India has always had cordial relations and good understanding with Nepal. Even if there are a few differences, Mr Singh felt, these can certainly be sorted out in an amicable way. The trauma which Nepal has undergone due to the deadlock on the Trade Treaty (which led to interruption of essential supplies to the Nepalese) was quite unnecessary. An invitation has already been sent by India's External Affairs Minister to his counterpart in Kathmandu to come to Delhi for talks so as to put the ties on an even keel.

Critics point out that the Government of India need not be oversensitive about Kathmandu's pro-China trends, the weapons deal with China and certain other matters. If Nepal wants separate treaties for trade and transit, let it have them. We should make some goodwill gestures to Nepal in order to remove the misunderstandings. The gains would be substantial.

The new Government, it is understood, intends to take steps to remove the fears in the minds of our neighbours that India is trying to be a regional bully. Of course India must make adequate preparations for the country's defence, but there is no need to overawe our neighbours with our military might; nor should this country do anything that would compel our small neighbours to seek security arrangements or a military umbrella from other countries (such as China and the U.S.A.) on the plea that they are facing a threat of aggression from India.

New Government, New Agenda

Mr Rajiv Gandhi's government is out and the new government led by the National Front party is in. What are the major challenges facing it and how will the Front government meet them? This question is agitating every citizen these days and is discussed here.

"After a long and dark night, the day has dawned, but it is still a misty dawn....We will give a government at the Centre that every Indian will be proud of....The voice of the government will be the voice of millions of Indian homes without the light of hope and of peasants, workers and youth."

—(From the first national broadcast of Prime Minister Vishwanath Pratap Singh)

December 2, 1989. Time 12.15 P.M. That was when "the day had dawned". A new government was installed at the Centre with Mr Vishwanath Pratap Singh as the eighth Prime Minister of India. It marked a break from the rule of the monolithic Indian National Congress which fought and won Independence and held sway for nearly forty years. It is for the second occasion in the long spell of time that a non-Congress government has come into power after due trial of strength at the hustings.

The challenges that it will have to encounter are many and varied—economic, political and social. Let us discuss them against the background of the legacy left by Rajiv Gandhi's government.

(a) **Economic problems:** Has Rajiv's regime left a battered economy? Mr V.P. Singh observed in his first national address: "The coffers of the government are empty and inflation has impoverished our people." The economy is in a shambles. In the next breath, he held out the promise for providing "debt relief" to the small farmers, landless

labourers, agricultural workers, artisans and weavers. The debts upto an amount of Rs 10,000 as on October 2, 1989 are to be waived. This is off-the-cuff comment and one must take it with a pinch of salt. An across-the-board waiver of farm loans would break the banks' backbone.

At the other extreme, Mr Manu Shroff, editor of the *Economic Times*, holds the studied view that India's economic performance during the last five years has been much better than was expected. The economy registered a growth rate of 5 to 5.5 per cent during 1989-90 on top of 9 per cent growth rate recorded in the previous year, says Dr Malcolm Adiseshiah. On this basis, the seventh plan target of five per cent annual growth is likely to be achieved and may even be exceeded to some extent. The agricultural growth for 1989-90 is forecast at four per cent and the foodgrain production at 185 million ton (a growth rate of 7.5 per cent); the industrial sector at 9 to 9.5 per cent over the 8.8 per cent growth rate registered in the previous year.

This is the bright side of the picture in contrast with the assessment of Mr Singh.

Three major problems identified for immediate treatment by the new government are: *inflation, budgetary deficit and the balance of payments problem.*

Inflation was the key issue in the election campaign of the ruling National Front combine and also of the other political parties in the fray. The new Prime Minister has appropriately given it top priority. Immediately after the swearing-in ceremony, he gave directions to the officials to take necessary steps to arrest the price spiral which has continued its ascent without abatement and strained the lean pockets. There is, however, no push-button system to bring down the prices. Excessive liquidity in the economy and the money supply

need to be reduced. Care must, however, be taken that the monetary squeeze does not result in any slackening of growth. That would be counter-productive. It may be added that the Reserve Bank of India is conscious of this. The control over price rise should involve the twin approach of keeping under check the demand-pull and cost-push forces. In the immediate future, the goods and services of common consumption should be made available at affordable prices. The other goods which enter the consumption basket of the middle or upper middle classes can wait for price reduction. The new government proposes to enlarge the base of the public distribution system and strengthen it further. The price of edible oil and sugar is to be reduced soon. It is felt that this will lend credibility to the new government which is very keen to have quick results by any means.

A major contributory factor to the persistent inflation is the mounting budgetary deficit. Curtailment of the deficit, which has more than doubled the amount envisaged in the seventh five-year plan, is necessary, but not easy. Balancing the public receipts and the public spending would largely depend on reduction in non-development expenditure which means cut in subsidies, interest and defence. Whether Mr Singh will be able to do it is a big question mark. He is, of course, better placed now than ever before (as finance minister) to formulate fiscal policies and implement them. Food subsidies cannot be reduced without hurting the poor. A cut in fertilizer subsidy will tend to escalate cost of farm produce including foodgrains which, in turn, will mean increased subsidy burden on the food front. It may also adversely affect the fertilizer industry. Export subsidy can be reduced only at the cost of foreign exchange earnings which India can ill-afford at the present juncture.

As regards the interest charges, the situation is somewhat rigid. So long as the existing debts are not scaled down or the interest rates reduced significantly, the incidence of interest payments will continue to exert pressure on our limited resources. Debt reduction is possible if the saving-GDP ratio could be stepped up. Actually, both savings and investments have suffered a decline. The government will have to think hard and take bold decisions. At present, India borrows to pay off past debts. The new government will be faced with the tough task to put an end to the reverse transfer of resources to the aid-giving countries.

Mr Singh has "inherited" a debtor economy. According to the new finance minister Madhu Dandavate "the economy is enmeshed in a debt trap. Inclusive of the non-Resident Indians' deposits, the total foreign debt amounts to over Rs 100,000 crore. The debt-service ratio is as high as 30 per cent while the safe limit is believed to be 20 per cent. The situation is alarming and the economy has become insolvent". There is no uniqueness in this status. Even the U.S.A. is an indebted country. That is not to deny that the problem of debt-repayment would be baffling. More so because of the inadequacy of the concessional aid to India.

The offer of the International Monetary Fund for a loan of 3 billion dollar which was rejected by the finance minister of the Congress party government, might be re-invoked. That is an easy solution to tide over the crisis dangling over the economy but it has serious consequences, particularly if stiff conditions are tied to it.

Defence is a guzzler of resources. Its modernization and equipment are compulsions which our nation cannot afford to ignore in view of the defence preparedness going on in the neighbouring countries. Mr S.B. Chavan did give a semblance of a squeeze in expenditure in the defence budget and pegged it at Rs 13,000 crore. The stress should be on efficiency-promotion rather than

on spending spree.

The negative BOP and the burdensome debt problems will have to be addressed by the National Front regime. These are not entirely the creations of Rajiv's era. The exogenous factors e.g., protectionism have been playing a good part. India's foreign trade policy has imparted some stability to trade flows by its policy of continuity. Exports have shown impressive results but imports have negated the gains. In the result a trade deficit to the tune of Rs 10,000 crore (estimate) has occurred in 1988-89.

To give a boost to exports, the industrial policies must be export-oriented. At the same time indigenisation need to be promoted to reduce the outgo of foreign exchange. Emphasis should be on more exports of value-added products rather than raw materials. Compositional changes in exports as well as imports are called for with a view to narrowing down the trade imbalances. The export of agricultural value-additions should be encouraged.

Globalization of trade and capturing greater share of the expanding world trade are other areas to be looked into.

Top priority to agriculture is a commitment of the National Front to the electorate. Mr Singh has declared that at least half of the investment of the plan would be channelled to the rural sector. While this approach will be reflected in the "revamped" eighth five-year plan (to be formulated by the Front) the industrial growth and development will have its due share. Agro-based industries and their modernisation with emphasis on value-addition will be the thrust areas in the small-scale sector. The process of liberalisation initiated during the last decade will be continued. Will the public sector role be watered down? Or will it be allowed to attain commanding heights? What will be the fate of the sick industrial units existing or in the future? Will they be closed down? The Front will have to take firm decisions on these aspects of industrial development.

The eighth five-year plan will be revamped with stress on decentralisation and rural development. This plan will not start from April 1, 1990, as scheduled before. The annual plan for 1990-91 will be treated separately from the eighth plan, 1990-95. This would, thus, be the second spell of pause in planning. A plan holiday? Possibly, the interregnum will be utilized to salvage the plan from the debris that has heaped over the years. Some cosmetic changes are inevitable to gain an impression that the NF government has a new and better plan to offer.

(b) **Political scene:** It is a government that works and works faster. That is the claim of the NF. Only a credulous person will accept the claim at the face value. The non-homogeneity of the party is bound to undermine smooth and efficient functioning and may even cause instability. The goal of stable, efficient and incorrupt government recedes unless the NF constituents coalesce to form a united front.

The assurance for an atmosphere of peace and harmony at home and abroad presupposes the demise of communalism, fundamentalism, casteism and regionalism. This is unrealistic. True, conciliatory and cooperative rather than confrontational approach can go a long way in defusing the explosive situations like "Khalistan" or Ramajanambhumi-Babri Masjid. But here, again, it will take two to see things through. Can the NF mesmerize the opponents? Integrity, honesty and uprightness of conduct are high values of life which cannot be easily injected into the impregnable and insensitive fabric of our society. Indians, particularly the politician tribe, have gone corrupt to the marrow. De-corruption requires a surgical operation. Will N.F. do it?

(c) **Social:** Universalisation of minimum education (elementary) and character-building are the two big challenges to which the NF should address itself with a crusader's zeal. All parties should agree on this in the larger interest of the good of the nation.

Kidnappers, Abductors and Naxalites

The extremists' latest technique to get their demands accepted by the authorities is to kidnap an important personality and demand a ransom or release of some comrades from jail. The technique seems to be successful. The proposition for discussion is: "Surrender to kidnappers' demands will soon lead to a disastrous situation."

Mr A Sir, in recent weeks kidnapping of important persons by extremists in Kashmir Valley in the north and Andhra Pradesh in the South created dangerous situations adversely affecting the prestige of the Government concerned. If some groups of discontented people can kidnap people in broad daylight, keep them in custody at secret places until their demands are conceded by the administration, what is to become of the entire machinery responsible for maintaining law and order and protecting the life and property of citizens? Within a couple of days of the swearing in of Union Home Minister Mufti Mohd Sayeed his daughter, Dr Rubaiya, was kidnapped by militants from a Srinagar locality and detained for five days in a successful bid to secure the release of five of their comrades who had been in jail for many months. Since the life of the abducted lady doctor was in danger, the incident caused concern all over the country. Ultimately, after prolonged negotiations conducted by intermediaries, Dr Rubaiya was set free. She and members of her family passed through a period of sheer agony. The question was widely asked: If the Union Home Minister's daughter could be abducted and released only after the culprits' terms were accepted, what is to be the fate of ordinary citizens for whom sizable ransom is difficult to

pay? The kidnapping method of getting even unreasonable demands conceded by the Government was adopted by Naxalites in Andhra Pradesh. For them, the device was not new. They had kidnapped seven I.A.S. officers over a year ago from a jungle where they had assembled for an official meeting to review the problems created by the Naxalites. The officials were set free in exchange for seven Naxalites detained in jail. A police officer's son was kidnapped in Amritsar recently and was saved by setting free two hard-core terrorists in a barter deal. The latest act of such blackmail was reported from Andhra Pradesh towards the close of 1989. First, a Telegu Desam M.L.A. and then a Congress legislator, together with two Mandal Parishad presidents, were kidnapped. Although the kidnapped persons were released after a week or so, the episode raises several ticklish questions. If the "infection" spreads, will it not mean a mockery of the administration in due course and even cause its downfall? There may be many more Rubaiyas in future.

Mr B It seems to me, Sir, that my predecessor, Mr A, like some others in the country, has become needlessly panicky. The kidnappings were not such grave incidents as to shake the people's confidence in the Government's ability to tackle such situations. Kidnapping is not at all a novel malpractice. We should bear in mind that in this huge country, where there are problems galore, there are bound to be some disgruntled groups here and there. These groups, naturally, do not remain quiet and inactive for long. The terrorists in Kashmir and Punjab, like the Naxalites in Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Madhya Pradesh and elsewhere, renew their activity

every now and then. They watch eagerly for suitable occasions to commit nefarious acts in a bid to make their presence felt and reinforce their ranks. The kidnapping of Dr Rubaiya in Srinagar was only one act in a long chain of lawless activity, which includes murders, bomb explosions, cases of arson and disruption of life in other ways. The incident should not therefore be viewed in isolation. The Kashmir issue is sought to be highlighted by Pakistani agents who are supplied sophisticated weapons regularly. In my view the Kashmir problem and the activities of the hard-core militants in the Valley should be treated on a different footing and not regarded as of the same type as the depredations of Naxalites in some States. For one thing, the Naxalites have no connection whatever with the terrorists in North India. For another, their motivation is different. The only common feature between the Naxalites and the militants operating in the North is that both possess sophisticated weapons which enable them to score over the local police and para-military forces responsible for maintaining law and order. The Naxalites are Indian citizens and most of their groups have no intention of disrupting the Indian nation. They comprise ideology-stricken young men, many of them belonging to well placed educated families. They do have grievances, notably the prolonged detention without trial of several colleagues. They also want to establish a new social and economic order in which there would be justice for the masses instead of exploitation by greedy landlords and industrial barons.

Mr C I am afraid my predecessor, Mr B, has gone off the tangent and has missed the main issue which is that the recent

kidnappings pose a great danger to the country and have the potential of causing a disaster in course of time. With the notable reduction in the security guards for the new Prime Minister, Mr V.P. Singh, and his decision to move about freely among the people, for instance, the risks of kidnappings and abductions has become all the greater. Early in December he drove through Amritsar streets without police protection. As long as there are groups of malcontents in the country, some of them desperate and ready to stoop to any level to achieve their aims, safety of life will continue to be in danger. If the practice of demanding ransom for each person kidnapped or abducted spreads, a situation may arise when the extremist elements will resort to such actions with a vengeance. Come to think of it, kidnapping a person in any part of the country is not a very difficult thing, especially because there is no dearth of weapons, including Chinese rifles, at the disposal of extremists. Security is often lax and full of loopholes. It is, I think, just a question of chance that the kidnapped legislators and Mandal chiefs in Andhra Pradesh were not harmed physically and were released. The kidnappers could have eliminated them after imposing impossible conditions for their release. The extremists know very well how to force their intended victim into a motor-car at the point of the gun, and to take him or her to a secret destination. Since the relatives of the victims will do anything and pay almost any amount of money as ransom to save their life, the kidnappers will feel encouraged and become bolder as time passes. Unless effective, well-conceived measures are taken in time, kidnapping, demands for ransom and blackmail would become common in this country. In consequence, normal activity would become almost impossible in the vulnerable areas. Few Ministers and police officials have the requisite imagination and foresight to tackle a situation resulting from the activity of lawless elements. The most advisable course for the

administration to adopt is to remove systematically the grievances of the malcontents and, where possible, plan effective measures to eliminate the terrorists. Of course the terrorists and other extremists make demands which are generally unacceptable; they threaten the very basis of the democratic polity by threatening secessionism. To give one instance, the tribals in Andhra Pradesh, Bihar and Madhya Pradesh have remained neglected for the past many years. No wonder these poor, exploited people now look upon the Naxalites as their saviours; they cooperate with them rather than with the police. The suspicion is growing that the Naxalites are running a parallel government in areas where they have a stronghold. Since the State Government has failed to alleviate the sufferings of tribals and solve their genuine problems, the discontent grows. Unfortunately, the efforts to handle Naxalites have got mixed up with politics. The point is that once the extremists taste victory (like tasting blood) in the shape of the Government's surrender to their demands, they will feel tempted to repeat their strategy. And so the process will go on, the demands will continually increase and the victims will be V.I.P.s. The Government's weaknesses and vulnerability will stand cruelly exposed, and the people will lose confidence in the ability of their rulers to check the menace. The use of force (or resort to State terrorism) against the Naxalites will not bring the desired results. But tact and wisdom in anti-extremist measures, and promptness in improving the lot of neglected people will help in weaning them away from the Naxalites.

Mr D I am inclined to agree with the last point made by Mr C, namely, the desirability of bringing the milder and softened section of Naxalites into the national mainstream. The passage of time, and their failure to achieve their ideological goals even partially, have prompted them to

have second thoughts on their postures of violence. In any case, former Chief Minister N.T. Rama Rao's proposal to distribute gun licences and weapons among the villagers was ill-conceived. Most of the villagers do not know how to use the weapons effectively and promptly as soon as they are faced by a killer gang. Besides; those who possess weapons (as in the Punjab countryside) were forced to part with their licensed guns to the extremists. There are also instances of Naxalites in Andhra Pradesh and some other States being killed in fake encounters with the police. According to reliable reports, the reign of terror by the police in villages drove many young men into the ranks of the Naxalites, and to those of terrorists in Punjab. I also feel that the political parties have mishandled the problems posed by the extremists of various types. As in the case of the Naxalites, the terrorists and other extremist Akalis are split into factions; in fact, dissensions and factionalism have afflicted the Naxalites from the very start. Presumably, there are about 100 Marxist-Leninist groups carrying on ideological activity in one form or another. Most of them are by now disillusioned and have come round to the view that constitutional paths would be safer and more fruitful even for the achievement of their revolutionary goals. Therefore, many people feel it is time to persuade the extremists, or as many of them as seem inclined to abandon lawless activity, to join the forces of nationalism. Basically, the young men who became Naxalites when the Charu Mazumdar group formulated a programme for "annihilation of class enemies" and to bring about an agrarian revolution by organising peasants and workers. This goal has not been achieved at all. Anyway, it is true that unjust exploitative social order, which was the root cause of the Naxalite violence, needs to be reformed. If justice to the masses is assured, the Naxalites will be deprived of their main base. To that extent, the danger to the citizens will be lessened.

Argumentative Questions on Social and Economic Problems

The following were among the questions put in the Descriptive type test for the Clerical Cadre by the Banking Service Recruitment Board, Bhubaneswar (Orissa) held on December 3, 1989.

We thank Mr Prasanta Kumar Sahoo of Nimapara and Mr Sibanda Misra of Varanasi for having sent these questions to us.

SPECIAL BUSES FOR WOMEN

Q. Some people feel that women should have separate buses for commuting and also separate reservations in higher jobs. Give at least two arguments in favour of and two against this argument.

Arguments For the View

1. The metropolitan cities such as Delhi, Bombay and Calcutta lakhs of women attend offices, factories and other centres of work; thousands of girls attend college and university classes. They are put to a lot of trouble while travelling to reach their destinations, and while returning home in the evening, because of the overcrowded buses. The population has increased manifold, and so has the number of women commuters and girl students in recent years. At present they have to suffer jostling and pushing in buses; many of them hold on precariously to straps or bars, sometimes for half an hour and even an hour, depending upon the distance to be covered. This causes them much inconvenience; very often their purses are snatched, their books and other material are lost in the rush. If special buses are run for women commuters, they would be able to travel in comfort.

2. In overcrowded buses mischievous boys resort to eye-teasing

in various ways; they deliberately push girls around, pull or tug at their clothes, sarees, headgear, shawls, etc. Women and girls find themselves helpless. The Government has often declared its intention to check eve-teasing, but it does not adopt an easy preventive method to protect women at least while they are travelling in buses. Plying special buses may not check eve-teasing in the streets, but at least women would be saved from the taunts, the harassment, the insolent, indecent remarks in buses.

3. With the police and the male passengers remaining indifferent to the activities of the trouble makers, the girls find that the best they can do is to remain silent; protests often make matters worse because others start staring at the victims without trying to catch hold of the teasers. Because of the indifferent attitudes of other people, the erring youth, including the roadside Romeos, persist in their tactics and have, what they call some fun, at the cost of hapless women passengers.

4. Moreover, chivalry and courtesy towards women have become things of the past. The non-observance of the queue habit at numerous places poses another problem. As a result, when a bus comes, people rush in and break the queue (if there is one). Even ailing and elderly women are not shown the consideration they deserve.

Arguments Against Special Buses for Women

1. Women demanded, and have been accorded, equality under the Constitution and other laws. If women compete with men in many spheres, they should also take their chance in buses. They can't have things both ways—special buses but equality in treatment in the services,

wages, promotions, etc.

2. Presumably, women would also demand women conductors in the special buses they want. And women drivers too! Where should we draw the line? Would it not be better for people, especially women who got their places of work in their own cars to give a lift to women waiting for buses on the roadside. The better off women who drive cars should come to the help of their less fortunate office workers.

3. Instead of demanding special buses to be run by the State-owned transport undertakings, the women concerned should charter buses, that is, engage buses for women commuters, and they should share the cost, even if the expenditure they would thus have to incur is higher than on tickets for ordinary "mixed" buses. Moreover, it is only fair that if special buses are started for women, they should pay the fare for the seats which remain unoccupied. Why should the general taxpayers bear the expenditure on special buses started exclusively for women and only for their convenience?

RESERVATIONS IN HIGHER JOBS

Arguments For the View

1. At present the proportion of women employees at the lower and clerical levels, and also in the higher posts, is wholly inadequate—far less than their numbers and percentage in the total population. In fact, the percentage of women in the higher services is so small as to be insignificant. Only if an adequate quota is reserved for women in the higher posts will justice be done to them.

2. One of the causes of the injustice done to women—the discrimina-

tion exercised against them and the low percentage of women in the services—is that the male officers do not take much interest in ensuring that there is an adequate number of women officers in each department.

3. Political leaders and Ministers pay only lip service to the cause of women's uplift. Before the recent general elections, for instance, there was much talk of reserving at least 30 per cent seats for women in panchayats, Parliament and the State Assemblies. The promise was soon forgotten even by Mr Rajiv Gandhi, the then Prime Minister and President of the Congress (I), while putting up candidates from various States. The result is that only a fraction of the promised 30 per cent share of the seats has gone to women in the new Lok Sabha. Was it only a gesture to win votes? It proved a flop anyway. Evidently, hypocrisy was practised in this case. Things would have been different if there had been a legal provision regarding the share of women in Parliament and State legislatures.

Arguments Against the View

1. The number of women who are fully qualified to hold high posts is very limited. That is why in both private sector and public sector offices we find only a handful of women occupying posts of the highest category. It is not easy to discharge the duties and responsibilities of seniormost officers. Filling these posts on a percentage basis would further lower the efficiency of the administration.

2. Long experience and impressive physical stature are advisable for incumbents of high posts in order to maintain good discipline and get work out of the reluctant employees. Most employees, especially clerks and junior employees, care little for women officers. There are several natural handicaps in women which would not make them capable and effective senior officers, especially in government offices where the employees know they cannot be removed from service and where discipline is woefully lacking at present.

3. It has been found that women generally make good stenographers, trustworthy private secretaries and attractive reception officers, but they succeed only rarely as high officials. There are some exceptions but these are too few to detract from the general statement that it would not be advisable to reserve a certain percentage of senior posts for women.

4. There is no bar against women being selected for high posts. Whoever is selected for such posts is allowed to function without hindrance. If they have merit, they are not bypassed. In case a quota is fixed by law and it remains only partially filled, less qualified women will have to be appointed to avoid the charge of flouting the legislation. If men are asked to fill the vacant posts in the women's quota there would be endless writs in the courts.

FILMS AS EDUCATORS

Q. Some people feel that films are not only a means of entertainment but also a means of spreading education. Substantiate your views (not more than four) by giving examples from your own experience, reading and knowledge.

Ans. By and large, the masses, and also the elite, regard the cinema as a means of entertainment, like television and the radio. In a country such as India, where the majority of the people are illiterate these mass media provide relatively cheap and easily accessible means of entertaining oneself and also the family. Time was when the radio had a virtual monopoly of the media of entertainment, but in recent years, following the phenomenal expansion of the television network (and in the number of sets in towns and villages) Doorqarshan programmes too are viewed by millions of people, primarily for entertainment. But the quality of our films is poor. The film producers cater to the tastes of the masses and they care only for box office returns (that is, profits) not for the quality of their productions.

The Government of India's aim in providing ample radio and television

facilities is not only to provide entertainment to the people but also to enlighten them on various themes such as family planning, bringing up children on healthy lines, educating all children and adults, carrying on propaganda against dowry and early marriage, exploitation of labour by landlords and factory owners in large industrial enterprises.

It is estimated that over 75 million people, mostly the masses, flock to cinemas every day, in the morning, afternoon or the evening. They are lured by the extravaganzas, the luxurious living style projected on the TV screen, the fabulous dresses worn by actors and actresses (the youth are also attracted by sexy themes and love scenes). India is the world's largest producer of films in various languages. About 1,000 films are made every year, mostly in Bombay, Madras and Calcutta. Most of these films are cheap and are largely dance-and-song sequences, with young and attractive heroes and heroines. Myth, fantasy and luxurious life-styles are presented; these create false impressions among the viewers. In films the masses find an escape from the drudgery of their substandard lives.

Besides educating the masses in respect of the outstanding social problems—oppression of women, plight of bonded labour, the fate of illiterate people and the daily wage earners—All India Radio and television provide scores of news bulletins (270 news bulletins in 19 languages spread over all the 24 hours, day and night, in their home, regional and external services). Through the news bulletins the listeners and viewers become aware of developments in their region, the country and abroad. News bulletins, like newspapers and journals, are undeniably great educators.

While newspapers and journals serve the educated people, the radio and television educate the masses besides informing the elite about the various events. Had it not been for the information, instruction and education imparted by the radio and TV, millions of people of this country would have remained ignorant and unenlightened about national and

international affairs.

Thus the cinema, the radio and television together combine entertainment with education. Many films rid people of superstitions and false beliefs by exposing their hollowness and by bringing ridicule on those who try to exploit these beliefs. On the radio and on TV there are instructive talks and discussions on various problems. These talks and discussions throw light on current problems. The experts who participate in them enlighten people.

I feel that the cinema and the TV can serve as effective instruments of social change, help transform outmoded social attitudes, especially in the rural areas. Actually, the cinema and TV are unique media of communication. These media also broadcast educational programmes for school and college students, especially prepared by the University Grants Commission on science, modern inventions and culture. Foreign sources are also tapped for this purpose.

From my personal experience I can say that many of the films are cheap, full of scenes of violence and sex and romantic themes which, instead of imparting education, cater to base human instincts and passions. The stress in the films I saw was on entertainment, not on education. It is desirable, therefore, that the standards of the film industry should not be allowed to deteriorate. Even if the box-office earnings of the film producers fall because of the stress on quality and decency in films, the country as a whole would gain. The film reviews in newspapers and journals, which I frequently read, stress the same points. All the critics deplore the fact that despite the frequent criticism of Indian films, no improvement is being made to conform to the national policy and guidelines. Government assistance and provision of other facilities should be totally denied to film producers who concentrate on violence and villains.

A TREE-LESS WORLD?

Q. Suppose there are no trees

on earth. Give various possible consequences, but in any case not fewer than four, if such a situation arises in the world.

Ans. Whether they constitute dense forests or form part of an orchard or stand along the roadside, trees are precious wealth of mankind in every country. Their utility is immense; their importance cannot be exaggerated and their continuous growth determines the course of our existence. It is difficult to imagine what the world would be like if there were no trees. They provide the eagerly sought greenery, the highly relished fruits, the indispensable wood for house building, the comforting roadside shades for travellers, especially in summer months. They also provide shelter to birds (whom every human being loves) who build nests at suitable places in branches. Poet Tagore spoke of trees thus: "The trees, like the longings of the earth, stand at tip-toe to peep at heaven; they come up to my window like the yearning voice of the dumb earth; be still, these great trees are prayers."

The principal consequences of the absence of trees would be:

One, the world would be deprived of all the greenery which imparts beauty to the earth and fruits and other products for the benefit of man. Bare, brown, treeless and naked earth would soon become a vast, frightening and soul-chilling desert. The trees hold the soil together with their roots and trunks. If trees disappear, loose earth would be blown hither and thither by strong winds and storms, spoiling our homes and making everything dirty. Mixed with water, this loose earth would create enormous mud and slush which would become a nuisance for everyone.

Two, mankind would be deprived of fruits which only trees of various sizes can provide. Fruits are a great boon for humanity. They are necessary for good health; they provide the badly needed vitamins, the highly relished flavour and of course unique nourishment.

Three, in a treeless world, we

would have no wood for constructing roofs over our heads, no doors and windows and many other items made of wood, such as furniture. Plastic, synthetic fibres and cement cannot wholly replace wood, though in today's artificial world, more and more of plastic and other such material is being used in place of wood.

Four, if there are no trees, there would be very little rainfall because the greenery and foliage attracts rain clouds. And if the rainfall is scanty, agriculture and crops would be badly affected in several areas. Rivers and streams would be reduced to tiny streams, containing water flowing from melted snow, wholly inadequate to meet the world's needs. It is the immense benefits that trees and forests bring which has prompted the Central and State governments to give all possible encouragement to people and institutions to plant and care for trees.

Much concern is being expressed all round at the rapid reduction in the forest cover of the earth. Reckless cutting of trees for commercial purposes, not accompanied by a corresponding planting of trees to make up the loss, is an offence since it denudes the earth of the vital cover. The absence of trees would also cause more floods, more erosion of the precious earth through washing away of the precious soil.

Five, the billions and trillions of birds would have no place to build their nests and to take shelter from sun and rain if there are no trees. And, if with the disappearance of trees, most of the birds also vanish, what a sorry spectacle the world would present! Only some varieties of birds can find shelter in bushes, but even dense bushes cannot replace trees as safe shelters for birds of all varieties. Birds living in bushes would fall an easy prey for poachers and these would soon be caught and killed by man and beast.

The disappearance of trees would indeed be a great loss; in fact, it would amount to a great disaster for humanity.

MODEL PARAGRAPHS

"Raising a slogan cannot raise a person's stature."

—Nehru.

"Magna Carta in England; Liberty, Equality and Fraternity in France; Freedom is my birth-right in India"—they were not just dust raising empty slogans but the invincible voices of heart and soul of those who had risked their all for the resurgence and resurrection of their dumb and dormant people, unmindful of the consequences that followed their clarion call of heroic struggle and sacrifice. The ideals of yester-years are being replaced by the catchy-slogans of today; commitments by convenience and convictions by comforts, are the short-cuts to political power all around. Empty stomachs are being fed on false promises and unrealisable populism. When Nehru made the observation that 'raising a slogan cannot raise a person's stature', he must have visualised with horror the mud and mire of present-day Indian politics, with none around to redeem and revitalise it as Gandhiji did with his precepts and practices.

"He is the happiest, he beking or peasant, who finds peace in his home."

—Goethe.

Certain truths are universal and eternal and no amount of twisting can distort or dilute their veracity. 'East or West, home is the best' was not said of a particular land, region or people. Over the ages, the maxim has held its ground. By instinct and necessity, man is a home-bird and whatever compulsions and constraints he may encounter and over-come, he tends to move homewards for solace and serenity. "However high or farther a bird may fly, it has to return to its nest for rest." The wise in their wisdom, the poets in their fancy and the mothers in their

love's labour—all have looked upon home as haven and heaven, the abiding abode of peace and piety. The tired hands and the sorrowful hearts need the warmth of the hearth and tender caresses of a happy home to heal the wounds that time inflicts on them. What makes a home? Bricks, concrete, wood and iron, when put together, construct a house and even a skyscraper but a home stands for human beings endowed with sense and sensibility, care and concern, and above all a voluntary sharing of joys and sorrows of all those living under the same roof. It is easy to erect an edifice but difficult to make a home. "Home, Sweet Home"—these three words sum up the essence of happiness and peace which is rare to experience and rarer still to possess.

"Learning without thought is labour lost; thought without learning is perilous."

—Confucius

The one without the other leads an individual into a strait jacket and blind gully, the other end of which may be more confused than confounded. Just as a body without soul and soul without body is something half-baked and semi-starred, similarly thought without learning and vice-versa, is deadly dangerous and dwarfish both in contents and contours. Of all the species, human species is the crown of life, not because it can see, hear and feel but because it can conceive and create wonders of the world. It is also capable of making miracles with the twin tools of thought and learning, whether the fields be art, literature, science and technology or the feat of transplantation of human parts from one body to the other. Undoubtedly and unambiguously both are supplementary as well as complimentary to each other. Too much learning without

assimilation may be dubbed as labour lost, just as excessive thinking without learning may be deemed disastrous.

"Self-trust is the essence of heroism."

—Emerson.

After God, it is the Self that one must cultivate and trust to overcome natural as well as psychological challenges that try to intimidate and haunt us. Like fragrance, it is invisible yet ever an integral part of our being. It has to be felt and found, aroused and activated because the fountain of life and its heroism, draw their nectar from this source. Sometimes when our own shadow seems deserting us, the only never-failing friend who stands by us, is our self-confidence. Prometheus, a symbol and sign of human endurance and self-confidence, tamed and tolerated the tortures inflicted by Zeus, and thus defied death and achieved a hero's halo around him. Great epics of the East as well as of the West, symbolise this Godly gift, which in times of trials and tribulations, is our succour and support. The protagonists of these immortal epics were men of rare courage and conviction armed with the twin weapons of self-trust and righteousness. It has been wisely said that 'in difficulties, self-confidence is our mother; in struggles, it is our guide and in victories, it is our philosopher'. It is like a 'light-house' that guides our destiny and shows us direction when we are caught in the quagmire and storm of doubts and self distrust. Human history is replete with touching tales of men and women, who shook the mountains and changed the course of rivers with the supreme and sublime strength of self-trust. Self-confidence is the key to success over evil forces and lack of it, is an open invitation to defeat and dishonour.

Art of Good Human Relations

Experimental psychologists have developed many theories in their attempt to explain the many-faceted human personality. Dr Eric Berne, famous American psychiatrist and author of "Games People Play", has developed a new theory of personality called "Transactional Analysis". It is regarded as one of the most promising break-throughs in psychiatry. According to Dr Thomas A. Harris, M.D., "It has given a new answer to people who want to change rather than to adjust, to people who want transformation rather than conformation." He adds, "It is realistic in that it confronts the patient with the fact that he is responsible for what happens in the future no matter what has happened in the past. Moreover it is enabling persons to change to establish self-control and self-direction and to discover the reality of freedom of choice."

Personality development through change

Berne's system of "Transactional Analysis", usually known as T.A., aims at personality development through change, the indubitable and scientific law of nature. Elton Trueblue suggests that causes for human behaviour lie not only in the past but in man's ability to contemplate the future or estimate probabilities. He points out "Man is a creature whose present is constantly being dominated by reference to the non-existent, but nevertheless, potent future."

J. Ortega Y. Gasset defines man as "a being which consists not so much in what is, as in what is going to be". It has been said that blaming faults on your nature does change the nature of your faults. Thus "I am like that", does not help. I can be different, does.

The basic unit of T.A.

In T.A., the basic unit of social intercourse is called a transaction. It consists of a transactional stimulus and a response. A transaction takes place when we recognise the existence of another person. By analysing transactions we are able to understand the way individuals relate to one another: "At a deeper level we may discover not only why people say the things they do, but also why they say things in their own way." By greater understanding of our own and other persons' behaviours through the analysis of the ways people use one another we can gain a greater awareness of our own needs and wants as also of those frustrations and fears which at times inhibit us in getting what we want.

Three Ego States

Man has a multiple nature. The three parts of the multiple human nature according to the T.A. Model are Child, Adult, Parent. They represent triple ego states. Each ego state is a system of feelings, thoughts and experiences that are related to patterns of behaviour one has learned and developed in the course of maturation or development. At any one moment in time every one of us is operating out of one such ego states, or state of being. Persons can exist in two states at one and the same time.

The Child

The Child ego state covers the period from birth to the age of five years. It represents "The felt concept of life". It is the reproduction of what the child sees, hears, feels and understands. In his child ego state a person operates essentially on feeling level—happy, sad, petulant, angry, hurtful, laughing, crying etc. One is also in his child ego state when one is being creative, spontaneous, enthusiastic, destructive or intuitive. "Since our childhood experiences were unique to ourselves, we

will each behave differently from one another in the same ego state. Sometimes an individual may conform, at other times rebel, just as he did when he was a child."

The Adult

The Adult ego state represents "the thought concept of life". As a person grows up he develops the capacity to absorb, assimilate and organize information from his environment. He learns to think, to solve problems, to estimate probabilities; to analyse, to gather and process data. He finds out what is different about life from the taught concept of life in his parent and the felt concept of life in his child. Engaged in any of these varied activities he is in his Adult ego state.

The Parent

The parent ego state represents "the taught concept" of life. It is a huge collection of recordings in the brain of un-questioned or imposed external events perceived by a person in his early years, a period roughly designated as the first five years of life. In his parent ego state an individual feels and acts as his real parents or parent figures did. He makes judgements, offers instant opinions, prejudices and evaluations as to what is 'good' or 'bad', 'right' or 'wrong'. This part of the parent ego state is termed the critical parent. An individual may also have a kindly, protective, generous and supporting nature. This springs from the way his parents nurtured or helped him. He has as much of each kind of parent in him as his parents were capable of providing. Since the parents of each one of us were unique individuals, therefore, the experiences of each one of us and memories of them constitute for each one of us their own individualistic parent ego state.

In any of these three ego states a person can adopt quite different attitudes and behaviour patterns towards himself and in his transac-

tions with others. For example from his child ego state a person may be spontaneous and loving or depressed, afraid or anxious. From his parent ego state he may be highly critical of some one or may be supportive or protective.

Four Life Positions

The TA Model involves four life positions a person may adopt in relation to himself and others. These positions are as follows:

1. *I'm not OK, You're OK:* This is the universal position of early childhood. Characterized by feelings of inferiority, the child feels at the mercy of others. It is the get-away-from-people position, adopted when depressed or withdrawn. The common way of dealing with this position is by playing psychological games, "a series of moves with a snare or gimmick"—(Dr Eric Berne).

2. *I'm not OK, You're not OK:* So let us smash both of us. This has been described as "the life-is-pretty-futile-for-all-of-us" position.

3. *I'm OK, You're not OK:* This is the get-rid-of-people position, tending to push others away. Incurable criminals occupy this position. It is always 'their fault'. It's, "all them".

4. *I'm OK, You're OK:* This is the get-along-with-people position. As Dr T.A. Harris observes in this position lies our hope: "I am a person. You are a person. I am important and you are important. If I devalue you I devalue myself." He adds, "The requirement of the position is that we are responsible to and for one another and this responsibility is the ultimate claim imposed on all men alike." The first three positions are unconscious, having been made early in life. They are based on emotions or impressions without the benefit of external modifying data. The fourth position is a conscious and deliberate decision. The first three are based on feelings. The fourth is based on thought, faith and the wager of action. "The first three have to do with why. The fourth has to do with why not".

Use of ego defence mechanisms

If moderate, ego defensive behaviour is normal, but when an individual is overly dependent on such

mechanisms, he actually hinders rather than helps his adjustment. As Prof G.C. Coleman observes, "All of us use these ego defence mechanisms. They are essential for softening failure, reducing cognitive dissonance (i.e. condition existing when new information is contradictory to one's assumptions), alleviating anxiety, protecting ourselves against trauma, and maintaining our feelings of adequacy and personal worth. Thus we must consider them normal adjustive reactions unless they are used to such an extreme degree that they interfere with the maintenance of self-integrity instead of being an aid." They are plain tricks people play on themselves.

The self can collapse under too heavy a load of defensive activities. Their drawbacks are serious. They involve a high degree of self-deception and reality distortion and are not, as a rule, adaptive in the sense of realistically coping with the adjustment problem.

Bag of Tricks

Some persons employ a whole bag of tricks to falsify reality and to disguise their real attitudes and feelings from themselves. In this way they practise the gentle art of self-deception. Let us look at a few tricks they play on themselves.

Projection

One of these tricks is called projection. It enables a person to blame other people or even things for failures that are essentially of his own making. The student who fails a course may claim that the professor disliked him. The golfer who drives his ball into water hole may blame his misfortune on a "dead ball". In this way he tries to protect his feelings of self-esteem. Actually he is making a poor discrimination as a form of avoidance. Many of us have the tendency to blame someone else for our mistakes. We adopt the 'Willie pushed me' attitude. It takes a strong character to face the truth. "When anything goes wrong", says F.J. Gable, "it is more important to talk about who is going to fix it than who is to blame." A man may fail many times but he won't be failure until he says

that someone pushed him.

Rationalization

This is a trick by which apparently logical explanations are devised to explain and justify what otherwise would result in loss of social approval and self-esteem. It takes many forms. There is the "sour grape" attitude, so well portrayed by Aesop in the fable of fox who tried in vain to reach a bunch of grapes hanging over his head and then decided, "I am sure the grapes are sour." Sour grapes is a standard technique for slandering the reality that eludes one's grasp.

A person may view business success as requiring too much effort or point out that the girl he could not get talks too much and will probably lose her figure at an early age. As Aronson and Carlsmith have pointed out one way reducing the discrepancy between our assumptions of what is desirable and our failure to take action is to convince ourselves that the particular goal object is not really desirable at all.

The price of these tricks is self-deception for we accept reasons for our behaviour which are not the true ones. As a result we are less able to profit from our mistakes, and may instead fritter away our energy in trying to justify that they were not really mistakes or misdeeds at all. In this way we may develop unrealistic ways of dealing with life.

Art of good human relations

The T.A. system is essentially the art of human relations. From it we can learn how to handle ourselves as well as others in a purposeful, wholesome and friendly attitude so as to make our lives brighter and happier, more meaningful and more worthwhile. By using T.A. we can substantially enhance our capacity to act spontaneously in a rational and trustworthy way with awareness of and consideration for the legitimate expectations of others. We can acquire from it the precious gift of autonomy, "the true freedom of the mature grown-up" and the hall-mark of a healthy and sound personality. As a psychologist remarks, "from the T.A. 'tool box' we learn that we can ease or solve our problems, we can think and we can get things done.

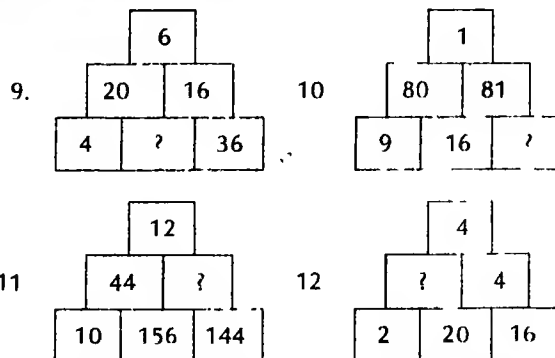
TEST OF REASONING-I

NUMBER SERIES

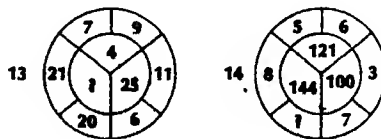
Find out the missing numbers in the series given below:

1. 45; 48; 54; 63; ...; 90.
2. 107; 110; 116; 128; 152; ...
3. 3; 4; 12; 48; ...
4. 6; 2; 8; 10; 18; ...; 46
5. 7; 56; 8; 32; 4; 36; 9; ...; 18
6. 6; 13; 7; 9; 32; ...; 18; 46; 28
7. 35; 7; 36; ...; 37; 21; 38; 28.
8. 12; 64; 24; 56; 36; ...; 48; 40

Numbers in questions 9 to 12 have been arranged according to a definite pattern. Your task is to find out the missing ones.



Find out the missing numbers in the questions given below.



Numbers in questions 15 to 18 follow the same arrangement. Your task is to find out the missing ones.

15.

8	27	?
3	36	7
4	21	2

 16.

3	24	9
5	?	4
1	20	3
17.

?	24	44
4	144	3
5	12	7

 18.

12	?	23
9	64	12
2	108	6

On the basis of the examples given in questions, find out the right numbers for brackets:

19. 284 (1325) 319
598 () 607
20. 719 (615) 511
923 () 367

LETTER SERIES

Find out the missing letters/numbers in the questions given below:

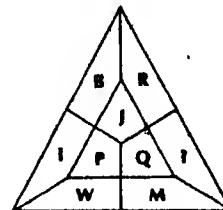
21.

P	/	S	19	V	16
23	Q	20	T	17	?

22.

5	E	6	?	2	B
C	3	G	7	D	?

23.



In the following questions, names of rivers, countries, leaders and metals have been given in jumbled forms. Your task is to spot the odd-man out:

24. (a) ROIN (b) PECROP (c) DOLG
(d) TRELOP (e) VILERS
25. (a) HIGDAN (b) HUREN (c) SANTEN
(d) PITAL (e) DAIRIN
26. (a) RIPAS (b) ANADAC (c) LITAY
(d) PANJA (e) RAIN
27. (a) GLOVA (b) ANAGG (c) METASH
(d) SLAP (e) HIREN

Study the series of letters given below and answer the questions that follow:

O X N C P T M J Q E S W B V A R
G F Z D I Y U H

28. Which two letters are missing?
29. Which two letters, occurring in alphabetical order together are neighbours here as well?
30. If all the letters were to be arranged alphabetically,

which letter will not change its place?

31 If all the letters were to be arranged alphabetically, which letter would be twelfth from the beginning?

32 Which letter is exactly in the middle of 15th letter from the end and 16th from the beginning?

CODING DECODING

Words on the left are written in their coded form on right. Your task is to find out which letter from (a) (b) (c) (d) (e) (f) and (g) is the code for letter in the box.

33 T R I U M P H

(a) v (b) e (c) l (d) b (e) r (f) d (g) a

34 R O A S T I D

(a) t (b) c (c) k (d) e (e) v (f) s (g) m

35 B U N D L E S

(a) m (b) k (c) u (d) c (e) h (f) l (g) w

36 M O N I T O R

(a) s (b) d (c) v (d) s (e) b (f) e (g) h

37 P A I N T E D

(a) h (b) m (c) e (d) b (e) k (f) r (g) t

38 B R I N J A L

(a) u (b) b (c) w (d) n (e) h (f) t (g) v

39 If according to a certain code SEPTEMBER is written as TGSXJSIMA decode

PEWSGKY

STATISTICS

In a certain constituency, the number of voters is as follows. The record also shows the number of votes that each of the candidates got. Study the record and answer the questions that follow:

NAMES OF CANDIDATES	TOTAL NUMBER OF VOTERS			
	MEN 2891	WOMEN 2798	YOUNG MEN 1047	YOUNG WOMEN 1264
	VOTES REC	VOTES REC	VOTES REC	VOTES REC
A	403	399	218	259
B	218	305	235	261
C	405	484	193	203
D	398	417	107	195
E	516	485	127	212

40 What per cent of the total population used their franchise?

- (a) 73.4%
- (b) 78.5%
- (c) 75.5%
- (d) 76.4%

41 Which candidate won the election and how many more votes did he get than his nearest rival?

- (a) D—7 votes more than E
- (b) F—55 votes more than C
- (c) C—5 votes more than E
- (d) E—61 votes more than A

42 Whose percentage of using franchise among older men and women has been more and approximately how much?

- (a) Women 6%
- (b) Men 2%
- (c) Men 4%
- (d) Women 8%

43 What has been the percentage of young population who went to the polling booths to cast their votes? (Approximately)

- (a) 87.8%
- (b) 86.8%
- (c) 85.9%
- (d) 87.0%

44 How many votes (percentage) did candidate D get? (Approximately)

- (a) 18.5%
- (b) 17.3%
- (c) 16.9%
- (d) 19.1%

45 Had D withdrawn his name in favour of B and all the voters who gave their votes to D had cast votes in favour of B, how many more votes would B had got in comparison to his nearest rival?

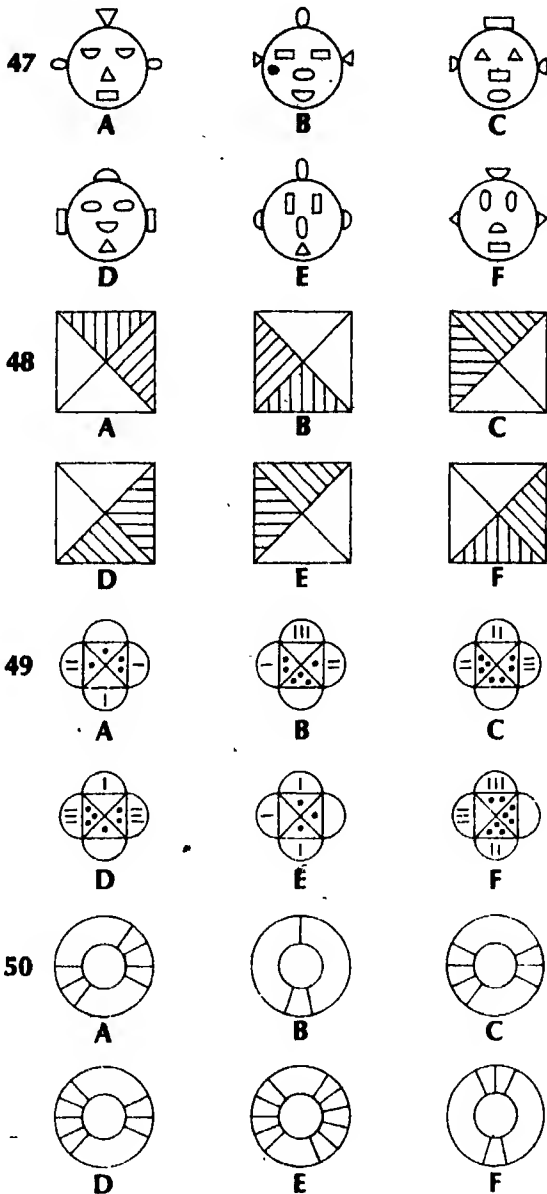
- (a) 816
- (b) 742
- (c) 912
- (d) 796

46 Who has been the young person's favourite candidate?

- (a) A
- (b) B
- (c) C
- (d) D
- (e) E

NON-VERBAL SERIES

Find the odd-man out:



ANSWERS AND EXPLANATIONS

1. 75. Go on adding 3, 6, 9, 12, 15 ... to numbers.
2. 200. Add 3, 6, 12, 24... to numbers.
3. 576. Each number is the product of two preceding numbers.
4. 28. Each number is the sum of two preceding numbers.
5. 162. Second, fourth, sixth... numbers are the product of numbers on their right and left.
6. 23. Numbers are in sets of three. Add first and third to get the second one.
7. 14. There are two series: 7, 14, 21, 28 and 35, 36, 37, 38.

8. 48. There are two series: 12, 24, 36... and 64, 56, 48, 40...
9. 42. 6^2 is 36; 4^2 is 16; $36 - 16 = 20$ and $6 + 16 + 20 = 42$.
10. 1
11. 100
12. 12
13. 1. The number in the inner circle is the square of difference of numbers in the outer circle.
14. 4. The inner numbers are the squares of the total of outer numbers.
15. 15. $(4 + 2)^2 = 36$; $3 \times 7 = 21$; $8 + 3 + 4 = 15$ and $4 + 21 + 2 = 27$.
16. 16
17. 35
18. 116
19. 525. It is the square of number on the right minus the left one.
20. 645. Add numbers on right and left and divide by 2.
21. 22 and W. Letters go zig-zagging dropping one in between when climbing. There corresponding numbers go zig-zagging from the other corner.
22. F and 4. Numbers in the upper line match the letters on their right and those in the lower line match the letter on their left.
23. U. Q is exactly in the middle of M and U like other sets.
24. (d) It is petrol, others are metals.
25. (c) It is Tansen, others are national leaders.
26. (a) It is a city only—PARIS, others are countries.
27. (d) It is Alps, a mountain, others are rivers.
28. K and L
29. G and F
30. R
31. N
32. B
33. to 38 Sort out common letters among words and check them with common code letters; e.g. the only common letter in TRIUMPH and ROASTED is 'T' and both have 'e' in their codes so 'e' is the code for T.
33. (a).
34. (c)
35. (a)
36. (f)
37. (f)
38. (d)
39. OCTOBER. First code letter is the next one, second has gap of one letter, third of two, and so on.
40. (c)
41. (b)
42. (d)
43. (d)
44. (a)
45. (a)
46. (b)
47. B. The figure showing nose turns upside down for cap but here it has moved a quarter only.
48. F. The patterns have wrong lines.
49. D. Lines here do not match with dots in the triangle opposite them.
50. D. The opposite side ought to have one extra line. Here it has two.

TEST OF REASONING-II

ODD-MAN

Find the odd-man out:

1. (a) Mig (b) Helicopter
(c) Vikrant (d) Bhaskar
(e) Aryabhata
2. (a) willow (b) fir
(c) oak (d) pine
(e) lily
3. (a) eye (b) nose
(c) ear (d) shoulder
(e) thigh
4. (a) bun (b) pony-tail
(c) pig-tail (d) horse-tail
(e) plait
5. (a) chisel (b) spanner
(c) cross-bar (d) spade
(e) shovel
6. (a) beaver (b) squirrel
(c) mongoose (d) fox
(e) lynx
7. (a) quay (b) deck
(c) bow (d) stern
(e) funnel
8. (a) guitar (b) piano
(c) sitar (d) balalaika
(e) harp

ANALOGIES

Tick-mark the choice that matches with the relationship the words have in questions.

9. farce : absurdity.
(a) tragedy : comedy (b) energy : electricity
(c) charity : generosity (d) disease : medicine
10. shaw : literature
(a) Bose : independence (b) Darwin : science
(c) Tagore : Bengal (d) Stalin : Russia
11. pound : shilling
(a) metre : inch (b) city : village
(c) college : school (d) week : day
12. idea : mind
(a) tongue : speak (b) plant : earth
(c) rose : thorn (d) ornament : gold
13. nightingale : sing
(a) fox : cunning (b) cow : milk
(c) tiger : cage (d) snake : bite
14. banquet : wedding
(a) bath : morning (b) cake : eat
(c) dance : stage (d) lecture : inauguration

15. Jupiter : Saturn

- (a) Neptune : Earth (b) Pluto : Mercury
(c) Earth : Mars (d) Moon : Earth

16. water : hydrogen

- (a) atmosphere : nitrogen (b) oxygen : air
(c) salt : sodium (d) black : coal

What is common in the following:

17. delta : estuary : bank.

- (a) They are mathematical terms.
(b) The terms are connected with river.
(c) They are connected with money.
(d) They are places reserved for forests and wild life.

18. Neil Edwin : Michael.

- (a) They are statesmen.
(b) They are the first persons to land on moon.
(c) They are scientists connected with the making of atom-bomb.
(d) They are pop-singers

19. Rourkela : Bokaro : Durgapur.

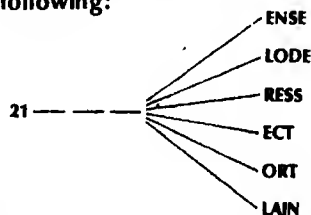
- (a) They have steel plants.
(b) They have the best technical colleges.
(c) They have atomic power plants
(d) They have coal mines

20. Green : violet : orange.

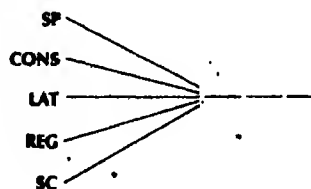
- (a) They are primary colours.
(b) They are made by mixing other colours.
(c) These colours are not found in butterflies.
(d) These colours occur together in rainbow.

LEXICAL ITEMS

Which set of three letters will form words if added to the following:



22. Which set of three letters, if added to the following will form words:

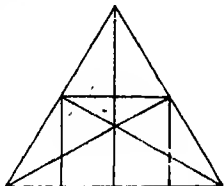


On the basis of clues given in questions, find out words for the brackets.

23. PLANT (TAPE) CLEAN
DRILL () PROUD
24. EARTH (TILE) GUILT
TRAPS () STORM

LOGICAL DEDUCTIONS

Answer questions 25 and 26 on the basis of the study of the figure given below:



25. How many triangles does the above figure have?
26. What is the minimum number of straight lines that needed to draw the figure?



Given above are three positions of the same dice. Your task is to find out what number is opposite '2'.

Letters A to G have been arranged in a line but not in the alphabetical order. Study the statements given below and answer the questions that follow:

- F is between D and B.
C and D have two letters between them.
E and G have three letters between them.
A and F have two letters between them.
G is to the left of D.
28. Which letter is on the extreme right?
29. Which letter is on the extreme left?
30. Which letter is exactly in the middle?

The heights of five children A, B, C, D and E are as follows:

- A is taller than D but shorter than E.
C is taller than E but shorter than B.
31. Who among the five children is the tallest?
32. Who is the shortest?

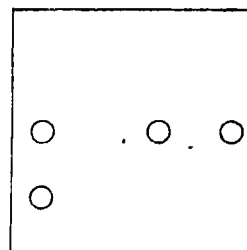
Four persons, Albert, Bharati, Chaman and Dhruv live in Australia, Burma, China and Denmark and are ambassador, businessman, chemist and doctor by profession. Study the statements given below and match the right parts.

The first letters of professions and countries do not match with the first letter of names. Chaman and Dhruv are not ambassador or doctor. Albert and Bharati do not live in Denmark or Australia.

33. Albert (A) Denmark (a) Businessman
34. Bharati (B) Burma (b) Doctor
35. Chaman (C) China (c) Chemist
36. Dhruv (D) Australia (d) Ambassador

Four cricketers A, B, C and D made 310 runs, B, C and D made 205 runs more than A. The number of runs made by C is double of those made by B and C made 35 runs less than D who scored a century and then added a few more.

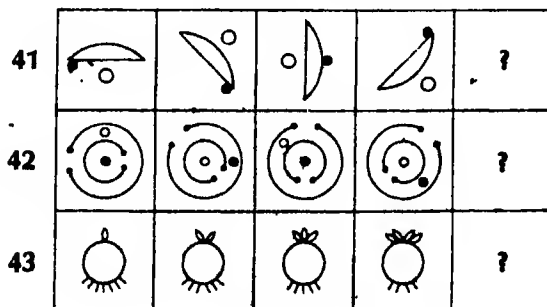
37. How many runs did B make?
38. How many runs did C score?
39. If these 310 runs were scored in 40 overs, what has been the average run rate?
40. A farmer has four mango trees in his field as shown in the figure. How will he divide this land among his four sons so that each gets the same size of land with the same shape and each has a mango tree too.



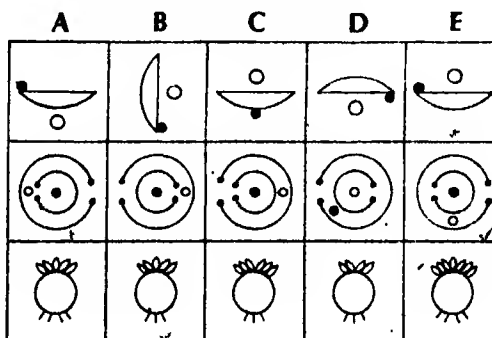
NON-VERBAL SERIES

Given below are two sets of figures, the Problem Figures and the Answer Figures marked A, B, C, D and E. Your task is to find out which of the Answer Figures would fit in place of the question mark in the Problem Figures.

PROBLEM FIGURES



ANSWER FIGURES

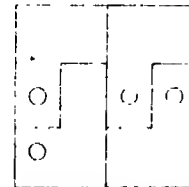


44		?
45		?
46		?
47		?
48		?
49		?
50		?

ANSWERS AND EXPLANATIONS

1. (c) It is a ship while others are spacecraft or aircraft
2. (e) It is a plant while others are big trees
3. (b) We have only one nose while the others are in twos.
4. (d) All the other terms are connected with hair-styles
5. (c) All the others are tools
6. (e) All the others have fur-like skin or tails
7. (a) All the others are parts of ship.
8. (b) All the others are string instruments
9. (c) Generosity results in charity just as farce is based on absurdity
10. (b) The relationship is that of man and his field of work
11. (d) Shillings make pound just as days make week
12. (b) The relationship shows the object and the place of its birth
13. (a) The relationship is that of the creature and the quality attributed to it
14. (d) Banquet follows wedding just as a speech follows inauguration.
15. (c) Both are neighbours
16. (c) The second is a component of the first
17. (b) 18. (b) 19. (a) 20. (b) 21. EXP 22. FNT
23. LUDO 24. PORT 25. 32 26. 9 27. 4
28. F. 29. C 30. D 31. B 32. D 33. Db
34. Cd 35. Aa 36. Bc 37. 36
38. 72
39. 7.75

40



41. E. The figure rotates clockwise, the black dot anti-clockwise and the circle changes sides.
42. A. The whole movement is clockwise but black and white spots interchange places.
43. B. One petal is added and one line is dropped.
44. A. Both circle and square have the same type of movement but in opposite directions.
45. E. The figure swings right and left, figures at the edges interchange places and the line inside goes towards the other side
46. A. The triangle moves along three corners anti-clockwise, the circle slides upside down and the remaining in diagonal lines but at different speed.
47. C. One stem is added left and right by turns and the fruit goes to the previous stem that had no fruit.
48. C. The big circle goes from corner to corner clockwise, the square up and down and the small circle, at half the speed, anti-clockwise.
49. B. The big and the small circle move in opposite directions.
50. E. Lower edge is repeated alternately, arrow changes direction after hopping from one figure to the other, and in the remaining one, one dot is added.

TEST OF REASONING—III

SYLLOGISM

TYPE I

In the following statements, a situation has been explained in a few sentences followed by a conclusion. You have to say whether the conclusion:

- (a) necessarily follows from the statements
- (b) is only a long drawn one.
- (c) definitely does not follow from the statements
- (d) is doubtful as the data provided is inadequate

Note: Your answers should only be in the light of the statements given

Statements:

- (1) 1 Tearing down of the Berlin Wall was welcomed by all the Germans.
- 2 Thousands of visitors rushed forward to go to the other side.

Conclusion: The Germans, in spite of their longing to go to the other side, were not allowed to do so for years.

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐

Statements:

- (2) 1. A government which is unable to maintain law and order in the country should resign
- 2. There is no law and order in country X

Conclusion: The government of X will resign soon

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐

Statements:

- (3) 1 Minorities comprise of 12% voters only
- 2. They play a decisive role in elections

Conclusion: They vote en bloc and the percentage of those who cast their vote is very high

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐

Statements:

- (4) 1. Unwarranted interference of outsiders in our internal affairs is always rejected
- 2. A very prominent head of one of our neighbouring States criticized our policies.

Conclusion: Our countrymen resented that person's statement and showed it in many ways

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐

Statements:

- (5) 1. The Kauravs and the Pandavs were cousins
- 2 They fought a terrible war.
- 3. Newspapers are full of the stories of disputes among cousins.

Conclusion: Cousins have no love for one another

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐

Statements:

- (6) 1. Every boss wants a smart secretary.
- 2. All secretaries have to type letters.

Conclusion: Only smart girls can type well, other ordinary

girls are no good.

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐

Statements:

- (7) 1 Many kings, queens, princes and princesses were candidates for elections.
- 2 It is not necessary for every elected person to be a minister
- 3 The persons mentioned above were rulers of their State

Conclusion: If they are elected, their status would be no less than that of a ruler

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐

Statements:

- (8) 1 Most of the trains are overcrowded
- 2 Mr John is arriving by the evening train.

Conclusion: His train would be overcrowded

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐

TYPE II

In making decisions about important questions, it is desirable to be able to distinguish between strong arguments and weak arguments so far as they are related to the question. Weak arguments may not be directly related to the question, may be of minor importance or may be related to some trivial aspect of the question. Each question given below is followed by two arguments numbered I and II. You have to decide which of the argument is 'strong' and which is 'weak'. Then decide which of the answers given below and numbered (a), (b), (c), (d) and (e) is the correct answer.

- (a) Only I is strong
- (b) Only II is strong
- (c) Both I and II are strong
- (d) Either I or II is strong
- (e) Neither I nor II is strong

9 Can voters be bought?

- I Yes, if a candidate offers money to them they become morally bound to vote for that person.
- II No, voters have high morals and such gifts are always declined

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

10 Will the new government continue the traditions of arranging Indian Utsavs and Festivals in other countries?

- I Yes, it is a healthy tradition for promoting international understanding and respecting each other's cultural heritage
- II No, they cost money that could be used for the development of the country

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

11. Do politicians have longer life as compared to other persons?

- I Yes, they become thick-skinned and 'tension proof', hence live longer.
- II No, they are just ordinary human beings and their days are numbered like anybody else.

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

12. Should people be allowed to go from one country to the other without any official formalities?

I. Yes, if the whole world belong to us why should there be any formalities.

II. No, since we have divided ourselves in water-tight compartments called countries, such movement will create lots of problems.

(a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

13. Will the Panchayati Raj be able to solve rural problems?

I. Yes, the village Panch are well versed in the law of the country.

II. No, they are not sufficiently educated to solve legal problems and may often apply the jungle law or the biased community laws.

(a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

14. Will India ever have cent per cent literacy?

I. Yes, if we resolve to do so it is not unattainable.

II. No, most of the illiterates just don't want any education for themselves or their children.

(a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

15. Are statistical data reliable?

I. Yes, they are prepared with great care.

II. No, statistics has been described as the damnest lie.

(a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

16. Is communal hatred growing more and more deep?

I. Yes, we hear of a fresh communal riot every other day.

II. No, it is only a handful of anti-social elements who start riots otherwise common man believes in co-existence.

(a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

TYPE III

In questions given below statements 1 and 2 are followed by conclusions I and II. Taking the statements to be true although they may appear at variance with commonly understood facts, mark your answers as under:

(a) Only I follows.

(b) Only II follows.

(c) Both I and II follow.

(d) Either I or II follows.

(e) Neither I nor II follows.

Statements:

17. 1. Some carpets are shirts.

2. Some shirts are mats.

Conclusions:

I. Some carpets are mats.

II. None of the carpets is a mat.

(a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

Statements:

18. 1. Some bottles are jars.

2. All jars are cups.

Conclusions:

I. Some bottles are cups.

II. Some cups are not jars.

(a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

Statements:

19. 1. All plants are flowers.

2. Some flowers are leaves.

Conclusions:

I. Some plants are not leaves.

II. Some plants are leaves.

(a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

Statements:

20. 1. All boots are gloves.

2. All gloves are socks.

Conclusions:

I. All socks are boots.

II. All gloves are boots.

(a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

Statements:

21. 1. Only those children wear caps who do not go to school.

2. Only school going children put on jackets.

Conclusions:

I. No child wears cap and jacket both.

II. Some children wear both.

(a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

Statements:

22. 1. All unmarried women put on saris.

2. Saris are pretty expensive.

Conclusions:

I. All unmarried women are rich.

II. Other dresses are not expensive.

(a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

Statements:

23. 1. Only those countries export wheat who do not grow rice.

2. Country X imports wheat from country Y.

Conclusions:

I. Country X grows rice.

II. Country Y does not grow rice.

(a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

Statements:

24. 1. All chain-smokers have black lips.

2. Rakesh has black lips.

Conclusions:

I. Rakesh is a chain-smoker.

II. He is not a chain-smoker.

(a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

TYPE IV

In the questions given below a statement is followed by reasons RI and RII. You have to decide which of the reasons is right one and tick-mark (✓) your answers as under:

(a) Only RI is right.

(b) Only RII is right.

(c) Both RI and RII are right.

(d) Either RI or RII is right.

(e) Neither RI nor RII is right.

25. Politics has been compared with a chess-board because:

RI. all politicians wear clothes with black and white checks.

RII. each move is far-sighted and is made to destroy the opponent without his least awareness.

(a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

26. Birds migrate because:

RI. it is instinctive.

RII. they have wings.

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐
27. Doctors inject liquid into patients because:
 RI. they like pricking them.
 RII. liquid dilutes blood.

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐
28. Centenaries are celebrated because:
 RI. very few people live to be hundred.
 RII. it is a homage to the great and thus a revival of the great deeds performed by that person.

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐
29. Plants are watered because:
 RI. water helps them in blooming.
 RII. it is instrumental in supplying them their natural food.

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐
30. People spend more time in reading newspaper on Sundays because:
 RI. Sunday is a holiday, hence no rushing and running.
 RII. Newspapers publish Sunday specials that cover a variety of interesting subjects.

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

TYPE V

In the questions given below, assumption 'A' is followed by reasons RI and RII. Your task is to find out which of the reasons is the right one and then tick mark (✓) the right choice

- (a) Only RI is right.
 (b) Only RII is the reason.
 (c) Both RI and RII are reasons for A.
 (d) Either RI or RII is the reason for A.
 (e) Neither RI nor RII is the reason for A.
31. A. It is customary for guests to thank their host and hostess for parties and dinners.
 RI. Courtesy demands thanks for the concern shown and trouble taken by the host and hostess
 RII. Guests came extremely hungry hence they ought to thank the persons who provided them with food.

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

32. A. The age of retirement was raised from 55 to 58 some years back.

- RI. Employees these days are more physically fit in comparison to their predecessors.
 RII. The Govt thus saves the pension money for three years.

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

33. A. Cartoons make us laugh.

- RI. Laughter is good for health.
 RII. The wit and fun displayed through cartoons make us laugh.

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

34. A. On every auspicious occasion, women decorate their houses with colourful 'rangoli' designs.

- RI. They are supposed to be ritualistic symbol of good omen.
 RII. Women display their artistic talents through these decorative colourful designs.

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

35. A. Most of the flop films are not universally disliked.

- RI. They only appeal to a selected few.

- RII. Every film is beautiful.

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

TYPE VI

In questions given below, a statement is followed by implications I and II. Tick mark your choice:

- (a) if only I is implicit.
 (b) if only II is implicit.
 (c) if both I and II are implicit.
 (d) if either I or II is implicit.
 (e) if neither I nor II is implicit.

Statement:

36. Indian soldiers reached the Maldives in their superb aircraft 'Gajraj' to free the country from rebels.

Implications:

- I. The aircraft is called Gajraj because it is shaped like an elephant.
 II. The Maldives authorities asked India to help them in their distress

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

Statement:

37. Pandit Jawahar Lal Nehru, the first Prime Minister of India, loved children.

Implications:

- I. Other Prime Ministers had no love for them.
 II. Nehru did not love anyone else.

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

Statement:

38. Teachers teaching in private schools often compel the parents to appoint them as private tutors for the benefit of children reading in their school.

Implications:

- I. Since they do not get sufficient salary, they have to depend upon tuitions.
 II. They do not pay sufficient attention to children who do not take tuitions.

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

Statement:

39. 5-star hotels provide every comfort and luxury to customers

Implications:

- I. They must be very expensive.
 II. Small hotels provide no comforts.

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

Statement:

40. Indian garments are very much in demand in America

Implications:

- I. They are cheap.
 II. They are in fashion.

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

TYPE VII

At the end of the paragraph given below some conclusions have been drawn. On the basis of the study of the paragraph, mark your answers as under:

- A. Definitely true.
 B. Probably true.
 C. Can't say as the data provided is inadequate.
 D. Probably false.
 E. Definitely false.

There are so many different things that make different people laugh, but if you try to analyse laughter, it is like dissecting a frog. You may find out its frills and whatever it has inside but you kill the being itself. So you just accept laughter as a phenomenon that releases tension, without trying to find out its ingredients. People react differently to different situations, a child will laugh if somebody slips on a banana-skin but a grown up will feel sorry for the same man because he has been through a similar experience

41. When a child slips on banana-skin, he laughs himself

A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐

42. Frogs have a sense of humour

A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐

43. If you probe into the cause of laughter, there is no laughter left.

A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐

44. Laughter cannot be analysed.

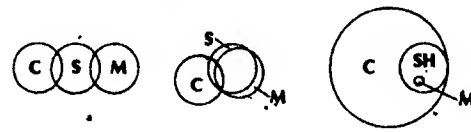
A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐

45. Every grown-up has slipped on a banana-skin some time or the other.

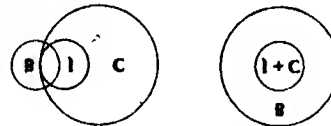
A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐

ANSWERS AND EXPLANATIONS

1. (a) The conclusion confirms both the statements.
2. (c) The statement is just in the form of suggestion so no conclusion can be based on it
3. (a) The conclusion is based on statements.
4. (a) The conclusion drawn is a definite one.
5. (b) One example and a few reported items are not enough for generalization, hence a long drawn conclusion.
6. (c) The conclusion is a wrong one.
7. (c) No similarity is shown between the royal personalities and elected people.
8. (d) The phrase 'most of the' makes the conclusion doubtful.
9. (e) First and second both the reasons are related to trivial aspects as morality is not defined well or put forward as a strong quality.
10. (d) It could be either.
11. (b) Only II is strong, the first is rather haphazard.
12. (c) Both the arguments are convincing.
13. (b) First is wrong one.
14. (d) Either could happen.
15. (c) Both are convincing in their own way.
16. (b) Only the second one is convincing.
17. to 20. The best way to answer such questions is by drawing diagrams of all the possibilities and then confirm the conclusion.
17. (d) The possibilities are as follows hence only one of the two is possible.



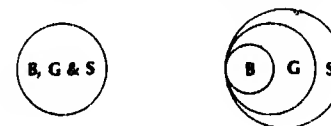
18. (a) The possibilities are as follows hence the II conclusion lacks confirmation.



19. (d) There are two possibilities and only either of the two could be the conclusion.



20. (e) The following possibilities do not allow us to treat either of the statements as correct.



21. (a)
22. (a)
23. (b)
24. (d)
25. (b)
26. (a)
27. (e)
28. (b)
29. (c)
30. (c)
31. (a)
32. (e)
33. (b)
34. (c)
35. (a)
36. (b)
37. (e)
38. (c)
39. (a)
40. (c)
41. C. The mention of individual experience makes the conclusion doubtful.
42. E. They have not been mentioned in any such sense.
43. A. The writer has compared it to a dead dissected frog.
44. D. The writer does mention the possibility and disaster of such analysis.
45. B. The author has pointed out to such a possibility.

Quantitative Aptitude

The questions given below have been selected from the previously held Banking Service Recruitment Board's examinations.

We are grateful to our numerous readers who sent these questions to us.

* Tick-mark the correct answer out of the choices given:

1. $7 \times 3 \times 0.21 = ?$
(a) 441 (b) 100 (c) 4.41 (d) 44.1
2. $1000 \div 50 \div 0.50 = ?$
(a) 20 (b) 10 (c) 70 (d) 40
3. $\frac{3}{4} + \frac{1}{4} + \frac{2}{4} = ?$
(a) $\frac{3}{2}$ (b) $\frac{3}{4}$ (c) $\frac{6}{2}$ (d) $\frac{4}{7}$
4. $\frac{128}{4} \div \frac{96}{24} = ?$
(a) 0.125 (b) 8 (c) 4 (d) 16
5. $27.67 \times 2 - 5.34 = ?$
 $2 \times 11.37 + 2.26$
(a) 50 (b) 125 (c) 2 (d) 2.43
6. $\frac{\sqrt{?}}{0.15} = 150$
(a) 1.5 (b) 1.53 (c) 506.25 (d) 1000
7. $\frac{49.6 - 49}{8.4 \div 0.7} = ?$
(a) 0.005 (b) 0.05 (c) 0.5 (d) 0.02
8. $2\frac{1}{2} + 5\frac{1}{6} + 1\frac{1}{3} = ?$
(a) $8\frac{1}{2}$ (b) $9\frac{1}{6}$ (c) $9\frac{1}{2}$ (d) 9
9. $? \times 24 = 40 \times 15$
(a) 600 (b) 25 (c) 624 (d) 2.67
10. $\frac{309 \div 10.3 + 170}{10 \div 0.1} = ?$
(a) 51 (b) 1 (c) 2 (d) 10
11. $\frac{15}{3} \times \frac{4}{5} \div \frac{9}{2} = ?$
(a) $\frac{8}{9}$ (b) 18 (c) $\frac{309}{30}$ (d) 4
12. $\frac{\sqrt{484}}{11} \times \frac{\sqrt{324}}{9} \times 0.4 = ?$
(a) 4 (b) 1.6 (c) 633.6 (d) 80.4
13. $300 \div 0.3 = ?$
(a) 90 (b) 10 (c) 100 (d) 1000

14. $15 \times 20.5 = ?$
(a) $(10 \times 10.5) + (5 \times 25)$ (b) $(5 \times 25) + (5 \times 10.5)$
(c) $(10 \times 10.5) + (5 \times 7.5)$
(d) $(10 \times 20.5) + (5 \times 20.5)$
15. The value of $(9 + 3) \div 3 \times 2 - (7 - 3 \times 2)$ is:
(a) 1 (b) 7 (c) 4 (d) 0
16. Which of the following numbers is a square as well as a cube number?
(a) 8 (b) 16 (c) 32 (d) 64
17. A map has been drawn to the scale of 5 mm to 15 km. What is the actual distance between two places shown 7.3 mm apart in the map?
(a) 21.9 km (b) 22.3 km (c) 9.21 km (d) 22.5 km
18. If $\sqrt{1600} = 40$ and $\sqrt{81} = 9$, what is the value of $\sqrt{1681}$?
(a) 49 (b) 41 (c) 45 (d) 43
19. The square root of 30×7.5 is:
(a) 0.5×30 (b) 0.25×30 (c) $(1.5)^2 \times 10$ (d) $(2.5)^2 \times 30$
20. If M and n are whole numbers such that $M^n = 36$, the value of n^M is:
(a) 12 (b) 64 (c) 36 (d) 1
21. The difference of 2^3 and $(2^3)^2$ is:
(a) 0 (b) 24 (c) 32 (d) 448
22. If $\frac{1}{4}$ of 20 is not 5 but 4, then $\frac{1}{3}$ of 10 will be:
(a) $\frac{10}{3}$ (b) $\frac{8}{3}$ (c) $\frac{7}{3}$ (d) 3
23. If $434 \div 14 = 31$, then $0.000434 \div 0.14$ is:
(a) 0.31 (b) 0.031 (c) 0.0031 (d) 310000
24. The sum of three consecutive odd integers is always divisible by:
(a) 3 (b) 5 (c) 7 (d) 9
25. On dividing the approximate number 4568 by the approximate number 2.45 we get:
(a) 18.64 (b) 1.864 (c) 1.86 (d) 1.865
26. If $178 \times 34 = 6052$, then $6.052 \div 17.8$ is:
(a) 34 (b) 0.34 (c) 3.4 (d) 0.03
27. The value of $\sqrt{10} + \sqrt{25} - \sqrt{121}$ is:
(a) $(2)^2$ (b) $(4)^2$ (c) $(16)^2$ (d) None of these
28. Sumit gets 10% more marks than Akbar. What percentage of marks does Akbar get less than Sumit?
(a) 10% (b) 9% (c) $9\frac{1}{11}\%$ (d) $11\frac{1}{9}\%$
29. The value of $0.55 \times 12 \div 11 + 0.6 - 1$ is:
(a) 9.9 (b) 0 (c) 99.9 (d) 9

OBJECTIVE-TYPE QUESTIONS

30. If 80 is decreased by 0.5% we get:
(a) 76 (b) 79.6 (c) 4 (d) 0.4
31. 0.05 when expressed in terms of % will be:
(a) 50% (b) 0.5% (c) 5% (d) 0.05%
32. A buys a house for Rs 1,00,000 and sells it to B at a profit of 10%. After some time B sells it back to A at a loss of 10%. Then, in the deal, A:
(a) suffers neither loss nor gain
(b) makes a profit of Rs 1000
(c) makes a profit of Rs 11,000
(d) makes a loss of Rs 1,000
33. A contractor undertakes to lay a road in 30 days and employ 15 men. After 24 days, he finds that only half of the road is made. How many extra men should he now employ so that he is able to complete the road in time?
(a) 60 men (b) 45 men (c) 75 men
(d) 80 men
34. The monthly salaries of two persons are in the ratio 3 : 5. If each receives an increment of Rs 20 in salary, the ratio is altered to 13 : 21. Their initial respective salaries are:
(a) 120, 225 (b) 120, 200 (c) 240, 450
(d) 240, 400
35. Ramesh's father was 4 times as old as Ramesh 10 years back. After 10 years, his age will be twice as that of Ramesh's age. What is the present age of Ramesh?
(a) 20 yrs (b) 22 yrs (c) 26 yrs (d) 25 yrs
36. Krishna started a business with a capital of Rs 18,000. 4 months later Suneeta joined with a capital of Rs 24,000. At the end of the year, total profit earned was Rs 5,100. Suneeta's share in the profit was:
(a) Rs 1950 (b) Rs 2350 (c) Rs 2400
(d) Rs 2100
37. The average age of a family of 6 members is 25 years. The average of the family after a 45-year-old member leaves, is:
(a) 20 years (b) 21 years (c) 23 years
(d) 22 years
38. The average of first five multiples of 3 is:
(a) 6 (b) 9 (c) 30 (d) 45
39. A train running at 30 m/second takes 30 seconds to cross a platform 600 m long. The length of the train in metres is:
(a) 120 (b) 150 (c) 200 (d) 300

ANSWERS AND EXPLANATIONS

1. (c) 2. (d) 3. (a) 4. (b) 5. (c)
6. (c) 7. (b) 8. (d) 9. (b) 10. (c)
11. (a) 12. (b) 13. (d) 14. (d) 15. (b)
16. (d)
17. (a) 5 mm = 15 km
 $7.3 \text{ mm} = \frac{73}{10} \times \frac{15}{5} = \frac{219}{10} = 21.9$
18. (b) 19. (a)
20. (b) If we take $M = 6$ and $n = 2$, only then the value of n^M i.e. 6^2 comes to 36.

So, $n = 2$ and $M = 6$

$$\therefore n^M = 2^6 = 64$$

21. (d) $2^{3^2} = (2^3)^2 = 2^9 = 512$
 $(2^3)^2 = (2 \times 2 \times 2)^2 \text{ or } 8^2 = 64$
 $512 - 64 = 448$
22. (b) if $\frac{1}{4}$ of 20 or $\frac{20}{4} = 5$, then
 $\frac{10}{3} = \frac{10}{3} \times 4 \times \frac{4}{20} = \frac{8}{3}$
23. (c) 24. (a) 25. (a) 26. (b) 27. (a)
28. (c) If Sumit gets 110 marks, Akbar gets 10% less
If Sumit gets 100, Akbar gets = $\frac{100 \times 10}{110}$
 $= \frac{100}{11}$ or $9\frac{1}{11}$ % less
29. (b) 30. (b) 31. (d)
32. (b) S.P. of A = 1,00,000 + 10,000 = 1,10,000
B's C.P. = 1,10,000
B's S.P. = $\frac{\text{C.P.} \times (100 - \text{loss}\%)}{100} = \frac{1,10,000 \times 90}{100}$
 $= 99,000$
A's gain = 1,000
33. (b) $\frac{1}{2}$ the work is done in 24 days by 15 men
Remaining $\frac{1}{2}$ the work will be done in 6 days by:
 $\frac{15 \times 24}{6} = 60$ men
The contractor should employ 60 - 15 or 45 more men to complete the job.
34. (d)
35. (a) Suppose Ramesh's age 10 years ago = 10
His father's age then was: $10 \times 4 = 40$
Ramesh's present age = $10 + 10 = 20$
After 10 years it will be $20 + 10 = 30$
Father's present age = $40 + 10 = 50$
Father's age after 10 years = $50 + 10 = 60$
i.e. double that of Ramesh
Thus present age of Ramesh = 20
36. (c) Krishna's capital for 12 months = 18000
Suneeta's capital for 8 months = 24000
Suneeta's capital for 12 months = 16000
Ratio of profit = 16000 : 18000 = 8 : 9
Profit = 5100
Suneeta's share of profit = $\frac{8}{17} \times 5100 = 2400$
37. (b) Average age of 6 members = 25 years
Total age of 6 members = 150 years
Less age of 45-year-old member
 $= 150 - 45 = 105$
Average age of the rest 5 members = $105 \div 5$
 $= 21$
38. (b)
39. (d) Speed of the train = 30 seconds per metre
It will cover 600 m in 20 seconds
Length of the train is distance covered in 10 seconds (as it crosses the platform in 30 seconds) $10 \times 30 = 300$ metres

ENGLISH LANGUAGE

★ Indicate by its number the part of each of the following sentences in which you find a grammatical error. If there is no error, the answer is (5).

1. In the recently held (1) elections to the Lok Sabha (2), most of the political parties (3) refrained to criticise (4) the Super Powers. (5).

2. With a view to help (1) the third world countries (2), the I.M.F. and the World Bank (3) keep sending their experts (4) to different regions of the world. (5).

3. The list of articles (1) lost in trains during the year (2) suggests that it is the young (3) than adults (4) who forget things. (5).

4. No changes detected (1) beyond the alterations of light (2) and of dark, of heat and of cold (3) as the sun rises and sets over (4) the arid landscapes. (5).

5. A country's strength lies (1) not in its wealth only (2) but in the character of such men who (3) are hard-working and sincere (4) notwithstanding the challenges facing them. (5).

6. No sooner the train arrived (1) than the crowd (2) rushed towards the compartment (3) to greet the Mahatama (4) who was travelling by that train. (5).

7. As the first Prime Minister (1) of India, Jawaharlal Nehru (2) was known by one and all (3) for his liberal and democratic outlook (4) even in the most trying moments. (5).

8. Wealth has no real value (1) as the means of helping others (2), because sporadic charity (3) is one of the most uncertain of all (4) benefits to the unfortunate. (5).

9. I thought that if I can (1) make three hundred pounds a year (2) and live with my wife in a country cottage (3), I would write the books (4) I liked and read everything. (5).

10. One of my best speeches (1) were delivered in Hyde Park in the torrents of rain (2) to six policemen

sent to watch me (3) plus only the secretary (4) of the Society that had asked me to speak. (5).

★ From the given pair of words, choose the appropriate word to fill in the blank the following sentences:

11. The minister paid an — visit to the riot-affected areas. (official, official)

12. Every kind of — was provided to the foreign tourists. (facility, facility)

13. We should make a — choice of friends. (judicial, judicious)

14. The road over the mountain was — (impassable, impossible)

15. He has a robust — (physic, physique)

★ Supply the missing articles in the following sentences:

16. — S.D.M. draws more salary than — accountant.

17. — apple a day keeps — doctor away.

18. — M.A. will be preferred to — B.A.

19. — little knowledge is — dangerous thing.

20. — Chief guest was late by — hour or so.

★ In each of the following questions six sentences are given. The first and sixth sentences are numbered 1 and 6. The second, third, fourth and fifth sentences are not in proper sequence and are thus numbered A, B, C and D. Select the correct sequence of these four sentences from the responses given under each:

21. 1. It is a small matter what happens to me in this trial or subsequently.

A. But is it no small matter what happens to India and her millions of sons and daughters.

B. Individuals count for little; they come and go,

as I shall go when my time is up.

C. An eight time or a ninth and a few more years make little difference.

D. Seven times I have been tried and convicted by British authority in India and many years of my life lie buried within prison walls.

6. That is the issue before me and that ultimately is the issue before you, Sir, if the British Government imagines that it can continue to exploit them and play about with them against their will.

22. 1. Social life properly so-called is communication between like minds.

A. That alone can give us positive pleasure or happiness in the company of other men.

B. It can be and will be as much a duty and an affliction as happiness.

C. But it must not be imagined that social life as we know it in the work-a-day world can be or will be only that.

D. Not to be prepared for that would be to court disappointment and frustration quite unnecessarily.

6. Everybody knows and unusually sensitive minds are emphatic that fellowmen can be very nasty.

23. Give words similar in meaning to the following:

- (a) abandon
- (b) contented
- (c) boldness
- (d) affection
- (e) acknowledge

24. Give words opposite in meaning to the following:

- (a) sympathy

- (b) optimism
- (c) elevation
- (d) entrance
- (e) fear

25 Give one word for the following expressions:

- (a) One who is out to destroy all government and order.
- (b) Life history of a man written by himself.
- (c) A speech delivered without previous preparation.
- (d) A man filled with excessive and blind enthusiasm in matters of religion.
- (e) A man who is unable to pay his debts.

* Read the following passage and answer the questions given at the end.

The essence of Gandhi's teaching was fearlessness and truth, and action allied to these, always keeping the welfare of the masses in view. We had been told in our ancient books that the greatest gift for an individual or a nation was *abhaya* (fearlessness), not merely bodily courage but the absence of fear from the mind. Janaka and Yajñavalkya had said at the dawn of our history, that it was the function of the leaders of a people to make them fearless. But the dominant impulse in India under British rule was that of fear—fear that spread everywhere, which weighed down heavily on everyone and choked everything, fear of the army, the police, the widespread secret service; fear of the official class, fear of laws made to keep people down, fear of prison, fear of the landlord's agent; fear of the moneylender; fear of unemployment and starvation, which were always on the threshold. It was against this fear that Gandhi's quiet and determined voice was raised: Be not afraid. Was it so simple as all that? Not quite. And yet fear creates its own ghosts which are more fearsome than reality itself, and reality, when calmly analysed and its consequences willingly accepted, loses much of its terror.

26. (a) What was the essence of Gandhi's teaching?
(b) What, according to our ancient books, is the

greatest gift?

- (c) What was the strongest impulse under British Rule?
- (d) What does fear create?
- (e) What happens when reality is analysed and calmly accepted?

Complete the following sentences by putting the correct form of the verb, given at the end of the sentence:

- 27 Who the Mughal Empire in India? (found)
- 28. She failed, for she nothing. (know)
- 29 She has to drinking. (take)
- 30. He came to me and my permission to go (seek)
- 31. The unlucky mountaineer was to death. (freeze)

Complete the following sentences by putting the missing word of the 'word-phrase' so as to make the sentences meaningful.

- 32. In matters of conflicting claims, we must adopt a policy of give and
- 33. Life is a tale of sound and signifying nothing.
- 34 Sights and of nature are pleasing and inspiring.
- 35. We spend most of our life in fretting and over trivial matters
- 36. Cartoonists have captured the hype and of election fever.

ANSWERS

- 1. (4) 'retrain from' and the verb following in the (gerund) ing form. Therefore, the expression should have been: "refrained from criticising."
- 2. (1) The expression most commonly used is: 'With a view to helping' i.e., "to" is followed by (gerund) ing form of the verb.
- 3. (4) 'the' should be prefixed with "adults" because the young and the adults are two different groups of people.
- 4. (1) The sentence in the passive voice (present tense) would make sense with "are detected" only.
- 5. (3) Such is always followed by

"as".

- 6. (1) The expression is always: 'No sooner....did....than i.e. no sooner did the train arrive, than....'.
- 7. (3) "know" is always followed by the preposition "to" in the passive voice.
- 8. (5) No error.
- 9. (1) 'could' in place of 'can' because the monologue is in the past tense.
- 10 (2) 'was' instead of 'were' because it refers to one speech out of many.
- 11. official (the discharge of duties as a minister)
- 12 facility (comfort, ease)
- 13. judicious (sensible, prudent)
- 14. impassable (that cannot be traversed or walked over)
- 15. physique (bodily structure)
- 16 an, an
- 17 an, the
- 18 an, a
- 19 a, a
- 20 the, an
- 21 BDCA
- 22. ACBD
- 23 (a) forsake
(b) satisfied
(c) courage
(d) fondness
(e) admit
- 24 (a) antipathy
(b) pessimism
(c) depression
(d) exit
(e) front
- 25. (a) anarchist
(b) autobiography
(c) extempore
(d) fanatic
(e) insolvent
- 26 (a) The essence of Gandhi's teaching was fearlessness and truth.
(b) According to our ancient books, *abhaya* (fearlessness) is the greatest gift.
(c) Fear was the strongest impulse in India under British Rule.
(d) Fear creates its own ghosts.
(e) When reality is analysed and calmly accepted, fear loses much of its terror.
- 27. founded
- 28. knew
- 29. taken
- 30. sought
- 31. frozen
- 32. take
- 33. fury
- 34. sounds
- 35. fuming
- 36. hysteria

EVERYDAY SCIENCE

★ Tick-mark the correct answer out of the choices given:

1. Radioactivity cannot be detected by a:
 - (a) cloud chamber
 - (b) photographic plate
 - (c) synchrotron
 - (d) scintillation counter
2. We can see most objects because they:
 - (a) reflect light
 - (b) emit light
 - (c) absorb light
 - (d) refract light
3. A picture covered with a glass plate cannot be seen so distinctly as one not so covered because the glass:
 - (a) is transparent
 - (b) reflects part of the light
 - (c) reflects no light
 - (d) absorbs most of the light
4. A beam of light is best diffused by a:
 - (a) mirror
 - (b) rough white surface
 - (c) rough black surface
 - (d) smooth black surface
5. When sunlight falls on a soap bubble, bright bands of colour are seen. This is caused by:
 - (a) dispersion
 - (b) interference
 - (c) pigments in the soap
 - (d) refraction
6. Sterling silver is an alloy of silver and:
 - (a) copper
 - (b) gold
 - (c) tin
 - (d) platinum
7. One can distinguish an element from a compound by their:
 - (a) melting points
 - (b) boiling points
 - (c) conductivity
 - (d) chemical properties
8. Colloidal carbon absorbs gases rapidly. This may be explained by the fact that it:
 - (a) is black
 - (b) has no odour
 - (c) is a solid
 - (d) has a large surface
9. A change which releases energy as it occurs is:
 - (a) isothermic
 - (b) exothermic
 - (c) hypothermic
 - (d) endothermic
10. The property of a body that is independent of its position in the universe is
 - (a) volume
 - (b) mass
 - (c) density
 - (d) weight
11. Legumes, such as clover, restore to the soil compounds of:
 - (a) nitrogen
 - (b) phosphorus
 - (c) potassium
 - (d) sulphur
12. The method of destroying harmful bacteria by heat is known as:
 - (a) distillation
 - (b) culturing
 - (c) sterilisation
 - (d) fumigation
13. Viruses were first crystallised by:
 - (a) Stanley
 - (b) Stent
 - (c) Summer
 - (d) Rous
14. Bacteria were first observed by:
 - (a) Pasteur
 - (b) Koch
 - (c) Leeuwenhoek
 - (d) Redi
15. The life functions that a virus apparently performs are:
 - (a) respiration and reproduction
 - (b) reproduction and locomotion
 - (c) locomotion and respiration
 - (d) excretion and digestion
16. Substances in the blood that neutralise the effects of certain foreign materials are called:
 - (a) antigens
 - (b) antitoxins
 - (c) toxins
 - (d) toxoids
17. After vaccination, the body builds up:
 - (a) toxins
 - (b) antibodies
 - (c) lymph
 - (d) plasma
18. Calorie requirements vary according to all of the following except:
 - (a) age
 - (b) intelligence
 - (c) occupation
 - (d) climate
19. When a person has appendicitis, his blood shows an increase in the number of:
 - (a) enzymes
 - (b) platelets
 - (c) white corpuscles
 - (d) red corpuscles
20. Digested food is carried in the blood by the:
 - (a) blood platelets
 - (b) plasma
 - (c) red corpuscles
 - (d) white corpuscles
21. A mineral which contains only silicon and oxygen is:
 - (a) hornblende
 - (b) mica
 - (c) feldspar
 - (d) quartz
22. The place on the earth's surface directly above the point at which an earthquake originates is the:
 - (a) epicentre
 - (b) focus
 - (c) Moho
 - (d) Zenith
23. Which planet is most similar to Earth in respect to gravity, escape velocity and size?
 - (a) Uranus
 - (b) Venus
 - (c) Mars
 - (d) Neptune
24. Which rock could be for-

OBJECTIVE-TYPE QUESTIONS

med by deposits of animal shells and skeletons?

- (a) sandstone
- (b) lime stone
- (c) shale
- (d) basalt

25. At local noon on board a ship, the chronometer reads 3.30 p.m. The longitude of the ship is:

- (a) 37° 30' west
- (b) 45° west
- (c) 52° 30' west
- (d) 60° west

**Increases (I), Decreases (D),
Remains the Same (RS)**

26. As the earth's distance from the sun decreases, its orbital speed:

- (a) decreases
- (b) increases
- (c) remains the same

27. The velocity of ocean waves

- (a) increases
- (b) decreases
- (c) remains the same

as the depth increases.

28. The length of ocean waves

- (a) increases
- (b) decreases
- (c) remains the same

as waves approach land masses.

29. On a clear, calm day, as the temperature decreases, the relative humidity:

- (a) increases
- (b) decreases
- (c) remains the same

Explain

30. Why can an astronaut travel outside his space capsule in a space-suit without being left behind?

31. How does the body make up for lack of oxygen in a rarefied atmosphere?

32. How are the tails of the comets produced?

33. How do submarines descend and ascend?

34. How are cosmic rays injurious to cells?

Matching Test

35. **Direction:** For each discovery/invention in Column A, write the name of the discoverer/inventor from column B.

Column 'A'

- 1. Discovery of neutron
- 2. Cathode Rays
- 3. Radioactivity

- 4. Value of e/m
- 5. Nuclear Charge
- 6. Mass Spectrograph
- 7. Positive rays
- 8. Positron

Column 'B'

- (a) Goldstein
- (b) A.H. Becquerel
- (c) R.A. Millikan
- (d) J. Chadwick
- (e) H.G. Mosley
- (f) J.J. Thomson
- (g) Aston
- (h) Anderson

Fill in the blanks

36. (a) Milk is irradiated principally to increase its content of vitamin ____.

(b) A(n) ____ is a growth of bacteria visible to the unaided eye.

(c) Bacteriologists refer to a spherical bacterium as a ____.

(d) During acute appendicitis, the ____ blood cell count goes up.

(e) A colony of bacteria in which only one type of bacterium is found is known as a ____.

Test Your Knowledge

37. The extent of the earth's atmosphere above the earth is variously estimated. As one rises from the earth into the atmosphere, the air becomes 1 dense so that at a height of 2 miles, one-half the total weight of the air lies below. The lowest layer of the atmosphere is called the 3. This layer varies in thickness from as much as 4 over the equator to about 5 miles over the poles. This layer of the atmosphere seems to control the 6. Immediately above this lowest layer is the 7 which reaches a distance of about 8 miles. The next layer extending out to 500 miles or more is the 9. The outermost layer is called the 10. It extends to a distance of about 11 miles.

ANSWERS

- 1. (c) 2. (a) 3. (b) 4. (b)

- 5. (b) 6. (a) 7. (d) 8. (d)
- 9. (b) 10. (b) 11. (a) 12. (c)
- 13. (a) 14. (c) 15. (a) 16. (b)
- 17. (b) 18. (b) 19. (c) 20. (b)
- 21. (d) 22. (a) 23. (b) 24. (b)
- 25. (c) 26. (b) 27. (a) 28. (b)
- 29. (a)

30. The astronaut has the same speed whether inside or outside the space capsule. Outside, his inertia keeps him moving with the capsule because there is no air friction to slow him down.

31. A person will take larger breaths in such an atmosphere to increase his intake of oxygen. His body will also increase the number of red blood cells to counteract the lack of oxygen.

32. When comets come close to the sun, some of the material vaporises, and the pressure of energy from the sun pushes the vapour in such a way that the tail always points away from the sun.

33. When the ballast tanks of a submarine are filled with air, the submarine weighs less than an equal volume of water and the vessel rises. To submerge, the ballast tanks are filled with water and the air that occupied them is compressed into high pressure tanks until it is needed again.

34. Cosmic rays penetrating living cells may ionise the DNA or RNA protein molecules so that these important chemicals are unable to perform their vital roles in the cell. The genetic make up of the cell may also be altered so that mutations are produced.

- 35. 1. (d) 2. (f) 3. (b) 4. (c)
- 5. (e) 6. (g) 7. (a) 8. (h)

- 36. (a) D (b) colony (c) coccus
- (d) white (e) pure culture

- 37. 1. less 2. $\frac{1}{2}$

- 3. troposphere 4. ten
- 5. five 6. weather
- 7. stratosphere
- 8. 50
- 9. ionosphere
- 10. exosphere
- 11. 18,000

GENERAL AWARENESS

The last 16 questions included in this feature were asked in the General Awareness paper of Assistant Central Intelligence Officers' examination held on the 1st October 1989.

We are grateful to Shri Subhankanta Mohanty of Bhubaneswar for sending these questions to us.

★ Tick-mark the correct answer out of the choices given:

1. The 1989 Nobel Peace prize was presented on December 10, 1989 to:
 - (a) Mikhail Gorbachov
 - (b) Javier Perez De Cuellar
 - (c) U.N. Peace Keeping Force
 - (d) Dalai Lama
2. Who, among the following, is the world's first woman cosmonaut?
 - (a) Sally Ride
 - (b) Valentina Tereshkova
 - (c) Junko Tabei
 - (d) Bachendri Pal
3. In which city in India is the Diesel works located?
 - (a) Chittaranjan
 - (b) Varanasi
 - (c) Perambur
 - (d) Bombay
4. The first non-communist Prime Minister of Poland, since World War II, is:
 - (a) Wojciech Jaruzeski
 - (b) Tadeusz Mazowiecki
 - (c) Gen Czeslaw
 - (d) Lech Walesa
5. W.L. Judson is associated with:
 - (a) Fountain Pen
 - (b) Zip Fastner
 - (c) Microscope
 - (d) Computer
6. The capital of Mozambique is:
 - (a) Kinshasa
 - (b) Lourenco Marques
 - (c) Nauru
 - (d) Lusaka
7. International Bank for

Reconstruction and Development has its headquarters in:

- (a) New York
- (b) Paris
- (c) Washington
- (d) Geneva
8. Won is the currency of:
 - (a) North Korea
 - (b) South Korea
 - (c) Malaysia
 - (d) Thailand
9. The Parliament of Japan is called:
 - (a) Bundestag
 - (b) Folketing
 - (c) Diet
 - (d) Yuan
10. Ajanta caves situated in Maharashtra were built during the period of:
 - (a) Guptas
 - (b) Mauryas
 - (c) Pallavas
 - (d) Pandyas
11. The highest mountain peak in India is:
 - (a) Mt Everest
 - (b) Nanga Parbat
 - (c) Kanchenjunga
 - (d) Nanda Devi
12. Talcher is famous for:
 - (a) Coal
 - (b) Thermal Power
 - (c) Petroleum
 - (d) Fertilizer Plant
13. The power to hold elections rests with the:
 - (a) Planning Commission
 - (b) Finance Commission
 - (c) President
 - (d) Election Commission
14. The maximum strength of Rajya Sabha in India is:
 - (a) 250
 - (b) 240
 - (c) 275
 - (d) 545
15. The headquarters of the Western Zone Railway is in:
 - (a) Madras
 - (b) Bombay

- (c) Ahmedabad
- (d) Delhi
16. The International Date Line is:
 - (a) $5\frac{1}{2}$ hours ahead of Indian Standard Time
 - (b) $5\frac{1}{2}$ hours behind IST
 - (c) situated 180° meridian from Greenwich
 - (d) None
17. The Government of India Act, 1935 introduced:
 - (a) Dyarchy
 - (b) Federal form of Government
 - (c) Provincial Autonomy
 - (d) Republican form of Government
18. The U.N. Security Council consists of how many members:
 - (a) 12
 - (b) 15
 - (c) 18
 - (d) 11
19. Best Child Actor Award of the 36th National Film Festival of India was presented to:
 - (a) Premji
 - (b) Shafiq Syed
 - (c) Guddi
 - (d) Shaji Karun
20. Nargis Dutt award for Best Film on National Integration of the 36th National Film Festival of India was awarded to:
 - (a) Rudra Veena
 - (b) Trishagni
 - (c) Piravi
 - (d) Main Zinda Hoon
21. The longest railway platform in India is at:
 - (a) Nagpur
 - (b) Kanpur
 - (c) Sonapur
 - (d) Kharagpur
22. The maximum number of Indian citizens who can be nominated as members of the Rajya Sabha is:
 - (a) 12
 - (b) 11

OBJECTIVE-TYPE QUESTIONS

- (c) 15
(d) 10
23. The total number of railway stations in India is:
(a) 32500
(b) 7700
(c) 24050
(d) 8700
24. Parasuram Express runs between:
(a) Trivandrum and Mangalore
(b) Kanyakumari and Mangalore
(c) Madras and Mangalore
(d) Kanyakumari and Madras
25. Pearl City Express runs between:
(a) Madras Egmore-Tuticorin
(b) Dadar-Madras
(c) Kanyakumari-Madras
(d) Trivandrum-Mangalore
26. The author of the book "Indira Gandhi Returns" is:
(a) Kuldip Nayyar
(b) Vijayalakshmi Pandit
(c) Khushwant Singh
(d) Ashapurna Devi
27. The author of the book "Many Worlds" is:
(a) K.P.S. Menon
(b) R.K. Narayan
(c) V.S. Naipal
(d) N.C. Chawdhary
28. "The Great Depression" is written by:
(a) Khushwant Singh
(b) Kuldip Nayyar
(c) Ravi Batra
(d) Ravi Shankar
29. Indira Gandhi Peace Prize for 1988 was awarded to:
(a) Prof S. Shreedharan
(b) Mrs Gro Harlem Brundtland
(c) Mrs Aruna Asif Ali
(d) Robert M. Solon
30. The first executive President of the U.S.S.R. is/was?
(a) Mikhail Gorbachov
(b) Joseph Stalin
(c) Andrei Gromyko
(d) Leonid Brezhnev
31. The 1989 Men's Wimbledon championship was won by:
(a) Boris Becker
(b) Stefan Edberg
(c) Michael Chan

- (d) Ivan Lendl
32. "Gita Govinda" is written by:
(a) Jaya Dev
(b) Tulsidas
(c) Valmiki
(d) Vishnu Gupta
33. Which city in India is known as space city?
(a) Bangalore
(b) Hyderabad
(c) Ahmedabad
(d) Madras
34. Who said "Child is the father of Man"?
(a) Shakespeare
(b) William Wordsworth
(c) John Keats
(d) Lord Byron
35. In which country the next (1994) World Cup Football tournament will be held?
(a) Uruguay
(b) France
(c) USA
(d) Italy
36. Which is the important divinity of Rig Veda?
(a) Agni
(b) Maruta
(c) Shakti
(d) Varun
37. Who was the pioneer among the following social reformers?
(a) Swami Vivekananda
(b) Ramakrishna Parmhans
(c) Ram Mohan Roy
(d) Dayanand Saraswati
(e) Swami Ram Tirath
38. Which of the following is the most effective way of communication?
(a) Cable
(b) Microwave
(c) Radiowaves
(d) Optical fibre
39. Isobars on a map connect the points of same:
(a) temperature
(b) barometric pressure
(c) rainfall
(d) height
40. Tripitakas were the canonical works of the:
(a) Buddhists
(b) Jains
(c) Ajivikas
(d) Vaishnavas

- (e) Kabir-panthis
41. Formation of RBC (red blood cells) takes place in:
(a) spleen
(b) bone marrow
(c) liver
(d) lungs
42. Who is the fastest woman of Asia?
(a) P.T. Usha
(b) Lydia De Vega
(c) Shiny Abraham
(d) Aswini Nachhappa
43. "Glassnost" is:
(a) a new kind of fibre glass developed by the U.S.S.R.
(b) a new space station of the Soviet Union
(c) policy of openness proposed by Gorbachov
(d) the name of a Soviet scientist
44. In which of the following novels, Charles Dickens is most autobiographical?
(a) Old Curiosity Shop
(b) Tales of Two Cities
(c) David Copperfield
(d) Great Expectations
45. Pimpri is associated with which factory?
(a) Fertilizer
(b) Antibiotic
(c) Newsprint
(d) Manganese
46. Estrogen is secreted by:
(a) stroma
(b) ovary
(c) germinal epithelium
(d) follicle gland
47. Sargossa Sea is a part of:
(a) North Sea
(b) North Atlantic Ocean
(c) North Pacific Ocean
(d) South Atlantic Ocean

ANSWERS

1. (d) 2. (b) 3. (b) 4. (b)
5. (b) 6. (b) 7. (c) 8. (b)
9. (c) 10. (a) 11. (c) 12. (d)
13. (d) 14. (a) 15. (b) 16. (c)
17. (c) 18. (b) 19. (b) 20. (a)
21. (d) 22. (a) 23. (b) 24. (a)
25. (a) 26. (c) 27. (a) 28. (c)
29. (b) 30. (a) 31. (a) 32. (a)
33. (a) 34. (b) 35. (c) 36. (d)
37. (c) 38. (b) 39. (b) 40. (a)
41. (b) 42. (b) 43. (c) 44. (c)
45. (b) 46. (b) 47. (b)

THE EXAMINER'S GUESS QUESTIONS

Q. What is Brezhnev Doctrine?

Ans. USSR's assertion of the right to use force to prevent departures from Communist orthodoxy in satellite nations came to be known as Brezhnev Doctrine.

Q. What does Zarb-e-Momin relate to?

Ans. Pakistan's biggest-ever war exercise held in December 1989 was called Zarb-e-Momin.

Q. Why was the famed Glass House, situated in Lal Bagh of Bangalore, in the news in November 1989?

Ans. The glass house completed 100 years on November 28, 1989. It was conceived as a conservatory to hold horticultural shows in 1888 by Garden Superintendent J. Cameron. King Chamaraja Wodeyar of Mysore agreed with the proposal and foundation was laid by Albert Victor, Prince of Wales, on November 28, 1889.

It came into limelight when the famous All India Congress Committee session was held here in 1969, which proved to be the prelude to the split of the monolithic party.

Q. What landmark was achieved by the International Red Cross in 1989?

Ans. The Indian Red Cross completed 125 years in 1989. The battle of Solfemia in 1859 left thousands of men wounded and dying unattended on the fields. The impact of such a devastating sight fired the determination of a young Swiss businessman, Henry Dunant, and from this chance encounter, the idea of the Red Cross was conceived.

In 1864 the first Geneva Convention established the formal recognition of the aims and activities of the movement.

Q. Who is the Speaker of the ninth Lok Sabha? Who was elected as the Pro-Tem Speaker before the Speaker to the 9th Lok Sabha was elected?

Ans. Rabi Ray. Prof N.G. Ranga, the senior-most member of the Lok Sabha was appointed Pro-Tem

Speaker.

Q. What name has been given to the political wing of Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE)?

Ans. People's Front of Liberation Tigers (PFLT).

Q. What does the Constitution (62nd Amendment) Bill pertain to?

Ans. The bill proposed to continue reservation for the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes for another ten years.

Q. Who has been appointed as India's Governor on the board of Governors of the Asian Development Bank, Manila?

Ans. The Finance Minister, Prof Madhu Dandavate.

Q. What was the life expectancy rate in India during the 80s?

Ans. 58 years.

Q. Name the authors of *Akaal Mein Saaras* (Crane in Drought) and *The Shadow Lines*?

Ans. Kedar Nath Singh and Amitabh Ghosh respectively. Both the authors have been honoured with Sahitya Akademi awards for 1989.

Q. What name has been given to the bill to provide autonomy to the AIR and Doordarshan?

Ans. Prasar Bharati bill.

Q. What was the purpose of Constitution (63rd Amendment) Bill?

Ans. The bill was introduced in and passed by the Parliament to repeal the Constitution (59th amendment) Bill which empowered the government to impose emergency in Punjab.

Q. Why was sub clause (5) inserted in Section 3 of the Commission of Inquiry Act?

Ans. The clause was inserted by the Rajiv Gandhi government to keep reports of commissions of inquiry away from the Parliament and State legislatures, in certain circumstances.

Q. By what name was Romania's dreaded secret police known?

Ans. Securitate.

Q. In Andhra Pradesh the

Archaeological Survey of India has successfully transplanted a 6th-7th century temple to a higher location as the area of original location was to be submerged by the Srisaillam Hydel-Power project. Name the temple?

Ans. Sangameswar Temple.

Q. What is the new rate of royalty on oil that is to be paid to Assam?

Ans. Rs 292 a tonne.

Q. Name the youngest pilot in the world civil aviation history to command a jet aircraft?

Ans. Captain Nivedita Bhasin of Indian Airlines. She is only 26-year-old.

Q. Who is the highest ranked player in the history of Chess?

Ans. Garri Kasparov of USSR. The position was earlier held by Bobby Fischer of USA. Kasparov is rated 2,800. Fischer's highest rating was 2,785.

The complex ranking system is derived from points awarded to players on the basis of their results in games, with the standard set at 2,400 for international masters and 2,500 for grand masters.

Q. Why was the Tehri Dam project in the news in first week of January 1990?

Ans. The local population and especially the leader of the Chipko movement had been protesting against the building of the project as they feared that it could lead to ecological and environmental destruction.

The Chipko movement leader, Mr Sundar Lal Bahuguna ended his 11-day-old fast on January 4, 1990 after the government agreed to suspend work on the project pending detailed discussions with him and the environmentalists.

Q. Who said "Ich bin ein Berliner" (I am a Berliner)?

Ans. John F. Kennedy, the late US President. These words were said by him at the famed Brandenburg Gate in reaction to the building of the Berlin Wall by East Germany.

SPORTS

ATHLETICS

Indian Open Rath Marathon

Long distance runner from Himachal Pradesh, Suman Mehta, achieved a hat-trick of triumphs in the Indian Open Rath Marathon at New Delhi on December 17. Winning the race for the third time in succession, she clocked 2 hours 44 minutes 39 seconds. Delhi's Asha Aggarwal finished second about 10 minutes behind. A total of 785 runners joined the fray.

There were 148 for full Marathon in the men's section which was won by Yashwant Singh Rawat, a 24-year-old runner from the B.S.F. Running barefoot, he timed 2 hours 23 minutes 42 seconds.

Shamsuddin won the half Marathon in the Men's section and 11-year-old Sabbo Kumari from Allahabad in the women's section.

CRICKET

Pak-India Tests

Third Test: The bald strip in the centre of Gaddafi Stadium at Lahore proved to be a batsmen's paradise and the third Test between Pakistan and India ended in a draw on December 6, maintaining in the current four-match series. During the five days of the match as many as 1208 runs were scored while only 15 wickets fell.

Scores:

India: 509.

Pakistan: 699.

Fourth Test: The proverbial uncertainties of cricket were well in evidence when the fourth and final Test between Pakistan and India was called off as a draw at tea at Sialkot on December 14. The four-match series thus ended without a decision in favour of either side.

Scores:

India: 324 and 234 for seven.

Pakistan: 250.

Pak-India Internationals

First Match: Pakistan pipped India by four runs in a 20-overs-a-side in a friendly match, played at Peshawar on December 16 after the one-day International, scheduled for that day, was abandoned due to poor visibility.

Scores:

Pakistan: 157 for four wickets.

India: 153 for three wickets.

Second Match: Owing to poor visibility, the second International was reduced to 16 overs each at Gujranwala on December 18. Put in to bat first, Pakistan made 87 for nine. Indian batsmen put up a miserable show and made 80 for nine, leaving Pakistan winners by seven runs to forge ahead 1-0 in the four-match series.

Scores:

Pakistan: 87 for nine.

India: 80 for nine.

Third Match: Due to violence by a section of the spectators, the third one-day match had to be cancelled at Karachi on December 20. Pakistan, put into bat, were struggling at 38 for three in 14.2 overs when hooligans started pelting oranges and stones, covered with wires, on Indian fielders. Appeals to spectators to behave had no effect and police had to start lobbing teargas shells and even resorted to lathi charge.

Fourth Match: Pakistan crushed India with a lethal dose of seem bowling to win the fourth and final match by 38 runs at Lahore on December 22. Aquib Javed was named the "Man of the Match" while Sanjay Manjrekar and Shoab Mohammad shared the "Man of the Series" award.

Scores:

Pakistan: 150 for eight in 37 overs.

India: 112 in 30.2 overs.

Australia-Sri Lanka Tests

First Test: Left-hander Mark

Taylor set a new record for becoming the first batsman to score 1,000 runs in his first year in Test cricket as Australia were held to a draw by Sri Lanka in the first Test at Brisbane on December 12.

Scores:

Australia: 367 and 375 for six.

Sri Lanka: 418.

Second Test: Pace bowler Merv Hughes, who took five wickets for 88 runs, destroyed Sri Lankan tail to lead Australia to a 173-run victory in the second and final Test at Hobart on December 20.

Arvind De Silva of Sri Lanka was named the "Man of the Match" for his two knocks of 75 and 72. He was also adjudged the "Man of the Series", after scoring 167 runs in the Brisbane Test to finish with a total of 314 runs.

Scores:

Australia: 224 and 513 for five declared.

Sri Lanka: 216 and 348.

Azhar to lead India

Mohammed Azharuddin has been selected to lead Indian team for the tour of New Zealand. The 16-member team selected for the tour is as follows:

Mohammed Azharuddin (Capt), Kiran More (wicket keeper; vice-Capt), Navjot Singh Sidhu, V.B. Chandrasekhar, Kapil Dev, Sanjay Manjrekar, Sachin Tendulkar, W.V. Raman, Ajay Sharma, Gursharan Singh, Manoj Prabhakar, Atul Wasson, Vivek Razdan, Narendra Hirvani, V. Raju and M. Venkataramana.

Bishan Singh Bedi will be team manager.

Cooch Behar Trophy

Central Zone won the Cooch Behar Trophy Cricket Championship for the first time defeating holders North Zone by virtue of the first innings lead in the four-day final which concluded at Calcutta on December 15.

Scores:

Central Zone: 530 and 62 for one.
North Zone: 442.

BADMINTON**World Grand Prix Championships**

China won both the men's and women's titles in the World Grand Prix Badminton Championships which concluded at Singapore on December 11.

Xiong Guobac defeated Malaysia's Foo Kok Keong in straight sets by 15-11, 15-7 in the men's section and carried home the first prize of 10,000 dollars. Tang JiuHong outlasted compatriot Han Aiping for a tight 12-11, 12-10 victory to claim the women's crown and with it the first prize of 6,250 dollars.

National Championships

Men's Title (Rahimtolla Cup): Railways.

Women's Title (Chadha Cup): Maharashtra.

BOXING**World Super Middleweight Title**

Sugar Ray Leonard (33) retained his World Boxing Council super middleweight title when he defeated Roberto Duran (38) in a 12-round bout with a unanimous points decision at Las Vegas on December 5.

CYCLING**Asian Championships**

The eight-day 14th Asian Cycling Championships resulted in a triumph for China at New Delhi on December 16. China finished with six golds and four silvers, the same as of South Korea but the bronze it won through Lu Suyan in the women's event, gave it a one-bronze medal advantage over Korea who had two.

Fastest cyclists: Korean Young Sub Um proved to be fastest cyclist in the men's section, winning the 1000 metres time trial in 1 minute 08.850 seconds, half a second slower than the existing best mark of 1 minute 08.370, established at the last meet at Jakarta. China's Zhou Lingwei sliced more than 1.5 seconds off the previous record of 1 minute 17.134

seconds standing in the name of her Compatriot Shen Quiqui since the last championships at Jakarta, to become fastest cyclist in women's section.

India's only two bronze medals were won by Balraj Singh Cheema in the 1,000 metres time trial and the women's team in the 3,000 metres pursuit race.

FOOTBALL**Subroto Mukerjee Cup**

Varanasi's Adarsh Seva Vidyalaya dethroned Madhyamgram High School from 24 Parganas District of Bengal 2-0 in the penalty shootout to lift the prestigious Subroto Mukerjee Football Cup.

Durand Cup

In an all-Calcutta final, East Bengal won the Durand Football Tournament for the eighth time and a rich purse of Rs 1.5 lakh when they scored a 3-1 win over arch rivals Mohun Bagan in the tie breaker at New Delhi on December 30. The runners-up got Rs 1 lakh.

HOCKEY**Asia Cup Tournament**

Pakistan accomplished a hat-trick of triumphs when they defeated India by 2-0 in the third Asia Cup Hockey Tournament final at New Delhi on December 28. They had beaten India in the finals of the previous two tournaments.

Without detracting from the merit of Pakistan's victory, it must be said that the result was not the true index of the run of play as India, besides forcing seven penalty corners, had muffed a penalty stroke at a crucial time.

South Korea won the hardline cup match defeating Japan by 1-0. The Sultan Azlan Shah, King of Malaysia, was the Chief Guest.

Nehru Tournament

Youth triumphed over experience when Indian Hockey Federation's second string defeated their senior XI by two goals to one in the final of the Nehru Hockey Tournament at New Delhi on December 8.

TABLE TENNIS**Junior National Championships**

Bengal boys and Tamil Nadu girls claimed the team titles in the 51st Junior National Table Tennis Championships at Indore on December 1. In the finals, Bengal defeated Punjab 3-0 to retain the Ramanujan Trophy while Tamil Nadu girls kept the Padmavati Trophy after a 3-0 cake walk win over Haryana.

Asian Junior Championships

Unseeded Choe Gyong Sop of North Korea and China's Wu Na won the boys' and girls' singles titles respectively in the fourth Asian Junior Table Tennis Championships which concluded at New Delhi on December 26.

Other results:

Boys' doubles: Hyun Jung Sik and Kim Hyung Woo (S. Korea)

Girls' doubles: Fu Pei and Zheng Yuan (China)

Mixed doubles: Hyun Jung Sik and Park Hae Jung (S. Korea)

Team titles:

Boys: North Korea

Girls: China

TENNIS**National Championships**

Men's singles: Zeshan Ali.

Women's singles: Nandini Kulkarni (nee Rangarajan).

Men's doubles: Zeshan Ali and Mark Ferreira.

Women's doubles: Nandini Kulkarni and Peggy Zaman.

Veterans' singles: Hiralal Das.

Veterans' doubles: Jaideep Mukherjee and V. Dhawan.

VOLLEYBALL**National Championships**

Holders Andhra Pradesh retained their crown in the men's section in the 38th National Volleyball Championships, which concluded at Guwahati on December 29. In the final they defeated Railways by 15-13, 17-16, 4-15 and 15-13.

Railways made it for the fourth time in the women's section defeating Tamil Nadu by 16-14, 15-4, 11-15 and 15-13.

Current General Knowledge

ABBREVIATIONS

KBCS: Knowledge-based Computer Systems.

MFN: Most Favoured Nation

PFLT: People's Front of Liberation Tigers.

AWARDS

B.C. Roy award, 1989

Dr Bomsri I. Wadia, obstetrician and gynaecologist at the Grant Medical College and I.J. Group of Hospitals has been awarded the 1989 Dr B.C. Roy award for his contribution to family planning work among the rural and tribal population.

Kalidas Samman, 1989

For Visual art. The prestigious award has been given to the distinguished painter Mr V.S. Gaitonde.

For Classical Music: The award in this category has been given to renowned sitar maestro Ustad Vilayat Khan.

The award has been instituted by the Government of Madhya Pradesh. It carries Rs one lakh in cash and a citation.

S.S. Bhatnagar award, 1988

The 1988 Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar award in Mathematical sciences has been awarded to Dr K.B. Sinha of the Indian Statistical Institute, New Delhi and Dr B.M. Banerjee of the Himachal Pradesh University, Shimla.

The award was instituted in 1957 in the memory of Dr Bhatnagar, the founder director-general of the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR). It is given to scientists below 45 years of age and carries Rs 50,000 and a citation.

Sahitya Academy awards, 1989

Twenty-two litterateurs have been given the Sahitya Akademi awards for 1989.

The following are among the books acclaimed by the Akademi: *Bengali:* Manab Zaman (novel) by Sirbhendu Mukherjee; *English:* The Shadow Lines (novel) by Amitabh Ghosh; *Hindi:* Akaal Mein Saaras (poems) by Kedarnath Singh; *Kashmiri:* Sheen Te Watpoud (novel) by Pran Kishore; *Punjabi:* Kahkshan (poems) by Tara Singh Kamal; *Rajasthani:* Jamaro (short stories) by Vavendra Sharma 'Chandra'; *Sanskrit:* Sandhya (poems) by Rana Karan Sharma; *Urdu:* Baaz Goyee (short stories) by Surender Prakash.

DEFENCE

New technology developed for Agni

Indian scientists at the Defence Research Development Laboratory (DRDL) have developed a new technology that will help them to fabricate the re-entry nose tip of the recently tested intermediate range ballistic missile (IRBM), Agni.

The critical component has been developed for the first time in the country. The technology is called the Multi-directionally reinforced carbon fibre perform (MRCP) technology. It is available abroad but is closely guarded. The DRDL breakthrough gives not only the "know-how" but also the "know-why" of MRCP development.

The aerospace industry needs composite materials that have stringent thermal, mechanical and frictional features. The new technology would help in meeting the requirement.

DISCOVERY

New historical find near Pune

Amajor archaeological breakthrough of global significance has been achieved by archaeologists from the Deccan Institute, Pune who have established the presence of man 1.4 million years ago on the Indian sub-continent.

The discovery of stone tools and artifacts below and near a volcanic ash deposition, 88 kilometres from Pune, compares in significance to the Mohenjodaro and Harappan excavations.

According to Prof S.N. Rajaguru, "This is a discovery that could change man's ideas about the spread of the earliest humans on earth."

While practically all evidence of man's evolutionary stages has been found in Africa—"the cradle of human evolution"—the Pune-Nasik highway promises to throw fresh light on the spread of hominids on earth. Hominids are the primates (now extinct) from whom present day man evolved.

Ever since the preliminary excavation of artifacts and tools over the past many months, internationally acclaimed archaeologists like Prof J.D. Clarke and Dr Robin Denell, were among those who have visited the site. Though they have termed the sites as among the most interesting ones, they have refrained from making any categorical statements, awaiting confirmation of certain tests and results.

Archaeologists have identified five sites near Bori and between the villages of Nimgaon and Pimpalwandi, along the Kukdi river. While solitary tools and artifacts have been found at sites I, II, and III, over 152 artifacts and tools have been collected from location IV. These include three choppers, three polyhedrons, six bifaces, one hand-axe and 140 flakes. Most of the artifacts have been made of basalt and dolerite.

Significantly, archaeologists have noted that this assemblage compares well with the earliest dated Achulian tools, such as those excavated from Koobi Fora (Kenya, 2.6 million years old), Olduvai Gorge (Tanzania, 1.8 million years old) and in Ubediya, Israel.

PERSONS

Mukharji, Justice S.

Justice Sabyasachi Mukharji is the new Chief Justice of India. He succeeds Mr Justice E.S. Venkataramiah.

He completed his B.A. (Honours) in Economics from the Presidency College, Calcutta. On November 23, 1949 he was enrolled as an advocate of the Calcutta High Court. He was appointed as permanent Judge of the Calcutta High Court on July 31, 1968. He became a Judge of the Supreme Court of India on March 15, 1983.

Pillai, K. Shankar

K. Shankar Pillai, popularly known as Shankar, has been a household name in India for more than half a century. He brought cartoon journalism in India to the position it enjoys today and was instrumental in promotion of children's books in India. He died on December 26, 1989.

He was born in 1902. In 1927 he graduated from Trivandrum University College. The same year he went to Bombay and joined the Bombay College to study law. Even while he was studying, he took to cartooning as a hobby and his sketches started appearing in various magazines.

In 1932 Shankar got an offer from the then editor of the Hindustan Times, Pothan Joseph, to work as a cartoonist for his paper. Shankar took the job and that was the beginning of a long and a chequered career.

During the hey-day of independence movement, Shankar's biting satire and sharp and intensive wit blossomed. He was often critical of the "Raj" and was highly acclaimed by almost all political parties.

In 1953, he started on the spot painting competition for children. With the lapse of time it has grown tremendously in popularity.

One of the momentous events of his career was the setting up of the famous dolls museum in 1965. Even today it is acclaimed as a symbol of the artists' enduring love and interest for children. The museum is only one of its kind in the world and has more

than 5000 costume dolls collected from over 80 countries.

In 1953 the "Children's Book Trust, for providing healthy reading material to Indian children, was started. The moving spirit behind this too was Shankar. In 1967 the country's largest children's library was established in the Nehru House under the Children's Book Trust and here again the guiding spirit was Shankar.

Sakharov, Andrei D.

Andrei Dmitrievich Sakharov, who developed the Soviet Hydrogen bomb and went on to become USSR's greatest advocate of human rights, died on December 15, 1989 at the age of 68.

From national hero to shunned exile to popular lawmaker, Sakharov's remarkable journey of conscience made him, perhaps, the world's most celebrated dissident.

His campaign for disarmament and human rights won him the 1975 Nobel Peace Prize. He was of the opinion that without international respect for human rights there could be no guarantee of peace.

PLACES

Romania

Romania was in the news in the month of December 1989 when more than 70,000 people were reported to have died in the uprising against the rule of Mr Nicolae Ceausescu. The government of Mr Ceausescu was toppled and he and his wife were executed.

Romania lies in the south east of the central part of Europe. It is bordered by the Soviet Union, the Black Sea, Bulgaria, Yugoslavia and Hungary. The capital is Bucharest.

The people, like all national group in Eastern Europe, are of extremely mixed ethnic origins. The modern Romania was formed in 1859. The constitution adopted by Romania in 1965 described the country as "socialist, sovereign, independent and unitary State of the working people of the towns and villages". It stated that in the republic "the leading political force of the whole society is the Romanian

Communist Party. In 1967 Mr Ceausescu was elected President of Romania. He ruled the country for 22 years as a ruthless dictator.

The economy is dominated by industry. In last three decades the agriculture has also recorded profound changes. The changes began with the land reforms of 1945. Land, which is the common property of the co-operative farmers, is tilled in common.

SPACE RESEARCH

Universe throws up its latest puzzle

The deeper research into the universe penetrates, the bigger are the puzzles which confront astronomers. Now two American scientists have discovered the largest structure yet determined in outer space—a string of galaxies some 200 million light years away from Earth.

The two researchers, both pioneers in locating distant structures in the universe using a three-dimensional method of charting, have called their discovery the "big wall".

Margaret Geller and Johan P. Huchra of the Harvard-Smithsonian Centre in Cambridge, Massachusetts, put its dimensions as 500 million light years long, 250 million wide and 15 light years thick. By comparison, our milky way galaxy measures only 10,000 light years across. Despite its size, it cannot be seen by the naked eye.

Four years ago, Geller and Huchra caught the scientific world's attention by disclosing that according to their three dimensional pictures, the universe is structured around huge voids which suggest a comparison to soap bubbles. Floating on the surface of these bubbles are the galaxies, such as our milky way, countering the conventional view in astronomy that such empty spaces were an extreme rarity.

Some of the bubbles have a diameter of up to 150 million light years. Such dimensions are so enormous that scientists are hard-pressed to explain how the matter making up the building blocks of galaxies could have been kept out of them in the 10 to 15 billion years since the universe

was created.

Earlier hypotheses, in which powerful explosions hurled matter out of the centre of these voids thereby creating the bubble-like structure, have not held up under cross-examination. There was namely no suitable answer found to the question as to how the matter in the period since the universe's creation could have flown so far apart to create such gigantic voids.

Geller and Huchra originally believed that their concept of cosmic bubbles was an alternative mode to the widely-held "big bang" theory about the creation of the universe some 15 billion years ago. In a study published in 1986 the two astronomers argued that there had been a multitude of bangs which propelled the galaxies apart, each explosion thereby creating a cosmic bubble. With their studies, the two scientists have added further to the mystery of the structure of the universe.

The two astronomers used the 1.5 metre telescope of the Whipple Institute on Mount Hopkins in the south-Western State of Arizona for their research. They measured distance using the red light wave alternation method, by which the wave-lengths emitted by the galaxies grow larger the farther a galaxy is moving away from Earth. The method helps to determine not only the distance of galaxies, but also the speed at which they are travelling. The method was the first to provide indications that the universe is expanding.

MISCELLANY

World of Science in the decade of 80s

The decade of 80s was the period in which Comet Halley once again graced the skies of planet earth, scientists built machines that mimicked the working of the human brain, and geologists found evidence to solve a 65-million year old mystery. There were amazing discoveries in space. And on earth technology propelled human spirits to new heights.

In space research the era of re-

usable spacecraft began with the launch of the Columbia space shuttle in 1981. The decade witnessed mankind's first steps to the stars when the Pioneer-10 spacecraft became the first human artefact to leave solar system in June 1983. Astronomers got their first detailed look at a supernova in 1987. The Voyager spacecraft beamed spectacular pictures of Saturn in 1981, Uranus in 1981 and Neptune in 1989. The discovery of giant voids in space and a great wall of galaxies has become one of the most serious challenges that current theories of galaxy formation now face.

Indian scientists entered the decade with the launch of the first indigenous satellite launch vehicle, the SLV-3, in 1980. India's first astronaut, Sqn Leader Rakesh Sharma, flew aboard a Soviet spacecraft in 1984. During the second half of the decade India joined the ballistic missile club by successfully test-firing the *Trishul*, *Prithvi* and the *Agni*.

Human embryo science became a hub of controversy, during the decade, as medical advance allowed doctors to study fetus with such precision as never before. The decade also saw the first test-tube baby. The discovery of a new drug called cyclosporin in 1981 made organ transplants safer and saved lives of hundreds of organ recipients. Fetal surgery surfaced as a new branch in medicine as doctors began to operate on unborn babies in the womb to correct life threatening congenital disorders. Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS) surfaced as a new, devastating and deadly disease in 1983. A vaccine against the AIDS virus is top on priority list for medical research in nineties.

Biotechnology research initiated early in the eighties began delivering as decade-end approached. Diagnostic kits, vaccines and a new genetic finger-printing technique emerged scientists began to engineer genes in living organisms, sometimes creating entirely new genetically engineered organisms.

A giant particle accelerator

nestled in central Europe in 1989 helped physicists peer deep into the sub-microscopic world.

Marine archaeologists working off the coast of Gujarat found what they believe are the ruins of the lost city of Dwarka, which submerged in the Arabian Sea. Scientists gathered mounting evidence to support a 1981 theory that a massive collision between the earth and a comet wiped out the dinosaurs 65 million years ago.

There were exciting finds in anthropology. In 1982 an Indian geologist, exploring the Narmada valley, found a 200,000 years old human skull, the oldest skull discovered on the Indian sub-continent, so far. Another human skull, 2.5 million years old, found in Kenya, forced anthropologists to re-think current beliefs about human evolution.

Scientists had their share of unfulfilled dreams too. Hundreds of laboratories around the world joined the international hunt for room-temperature super-conductors, triggered off by the discovery of new materials in 1986. But the quest still continues.

The prospect for harnessing nuclear fusion power in a test tube, claimed only in March 1989, is already fading. The long sought cure for common cold remained among the unattained goals in medicine.

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Improve Your Word Power

1. **loquacious:** (a) talkative (b) quiet (c) secretive (d) sad.
2. **articulate (adj):** (a) confused (b) wayward (c) aggressive (d) distinct.
3. **subterranean:** (a) open (b) opposite (c) conformist (d) hidden.
4. **labyrinthine:** (a) narrow (b) complicated (c) straight (d) open.
5. **fait accompli:** (a) incomplete (b) undone (c) hurried (d) thing done.
6. **obaisance:** (a) disrespect (b) indifference (c) obedience (d) insult.
7. **acrimonious:** (a) bitter (b) lively (c) disgusting (d) short.
8. **gauge:** (a) to walk briskly (b) to move sluggishly (c) to count (d) to measure accurately.
9. **nuance:** (a) delicate difference in meaning (b) feature (c) colour (d) condition.
10. **bulwark:** (a) offence (b) opinion (c) any means of defence or security.

11. **ubiquitous:** (a) invisible (b) omnipresent (c) all-powerful (d) optional.
12. **jamboree:** (a) funeral (b) marriage (c) festival (d) celebration; friendly gathering.
13. **surreptitious:** (a) underhand; secret (b) rewarding (c) punishment (d) compulsory.
14. **obscurantist:** (a) moralist (b) opponent of reform (c) reformer (d) nationalist.
15. **retrograde:** (a) progressive (b) balanced (c) forward (d) backward step.
16. **redoubtable:** (a) colourful (b) helpless (c) formidable (d) suspicious.
17. **boomerang:** (a) to sustain (b) to recoil (c) to help (d) to withdraw.
18. **abstruse:** (a) profound (b) shallow (c) irrelevant (d) awful.
19. **noviciate; novitiate:** (a) experienced (b) mature (c) childish (d) novice.
20. **indiscrete:** (a) not divided into distinct parts (b) injudicious (c) unwell (d) accidental

ANSWERS

1. **loquacious:** (a) talkative, vocal.
—Voters in India become *loquacious* at the time of elections.
2. **articulate (adj):** (a) distinct.
—The election campaign brings out the reality of India in most *articulate* form.
3. **subterranean:** (d) hidden.
—In crisis the *subterranean* face of Indian society surfaces with intense determination.
4. **labyrinthine:** (b) complicated, like a maze.
—*Labyrinthine* are the ways of life that we tread.
5. **fait accompli:** (c) thing done.
—The declaration of Emergency in 1975 was a *fait accompli* even before the Cabinet meeting was held.
6. **obaisance:** (c) obedience, submission.
—People refuse to pay *obaisance* to politicians who abuse their power.
7. **acrimonious:** (a) bitter.
—During the acrimonious debate in the Lok Sabha, some members resorted to abuse.
8. **gauge:** (d) to measure or judge accurately.
—The young party in India failed to gauge the mood of the voters.
9. **nuance:** (a) delicate difference in meaning.
—The *nuance* of the policy has appropriate the *nuances* of the situation.
10. **bulwark:** (a) offence (b) opinion (c) any means of defence or security.
—The *bulwark* against lawlessness has been the most effective

- bulwark* against executive lawlessness.
11. **ubiquitous:** (b) omnipresent.
—People's power in a democracy is *ubiquitous*.
12. **jamboree:** (d) celebration; friendly gathering.
—The Boy Scouts of Himachal Pradesh organised a *jamboree* on the highest cricket ground in the world at Chail.
13. **surreptitious:** (a) underhand; secret.
—*Surreptitious* forces are always at the back of insurgent groups.
14. **obscurantist:** (b) opponent of reform.
—In a conservative society, religious *obscurantists* play with the sentiments of the people.
15. **retrograde:** (d) backward step or move.
—Succumbing to pressure of bureaucrats in certain cases usually results as a *retrograde* act on the part of Ministers.
16. **redoubtable:** (c) formidable.
—Criminals in politics have acquired *redoubtable* power.
17. **boomerang:** (b) to recoil.
—Abusive slogans and senseless snides boomeranged on those who had coined them.
18. **abstruse:** (a) profound.
—Most of the discourse was *abstruse* in content and spirit.
19. **noviciate; novitiate:** (d) novice.
—Many *noviciates* were elected to the Lok Sabha.
20. **indiscrete:** (a) not divided into distinct parts.
—The *indiscrete* attitude of the government has frustrated the young research scholars.

Appointments Etc.

Appointed; Elected Etc.

Fernando Collor de Mello: He has been elected President of Brazil. Elections to the post of President were held for the first time in last 29 years.

Vaclav Havel: He has been elected as first non-Communist President of Czechoslovakia, in 41 years.

Guillermo Endara: He became the President of Panama after the US army overthrew Gen Manuel Noriega.

Ion Iliescu: He has been appointed as the President of Romania.

Patricio Aylwin: He has been elected President of Chile.

Bernard Dowiyogo: He has been elected President of Nauru.

Marian Calfa: He has been elected Prime Minister of Czechoslovakia.

Petre Roman: He has been elected Prime Minister of Romania.

Justice S. Mukharji: He has been appointed Chief Justice of India.

Rabi Ray: He has been elected the Speaker of Lok Sabha.

Prof M.G.K. Menon: He has been inducted as Minister of State for Science and Technology into the Union Council of Ministers.

Madhavsingh Solanki: He has been elected Chief Minister of Gujarat.

Pratapsingh Rane: He has been elected Chief Minister of Goa.

Air Chief Marshal (Retd) Arjan Singh: He has been appointed Lt Governor of Delhi.

Ashok Desai: He has been appointed Solicitor-General of India.

J.F. Ribeiro: India's Ambassador to Romania, he has been concurrently accredited as Ambassador to Albania with residence in Bucharest.

Dr Bimal Jalan: He has been appointed Finance Secretary to Government of India.

T.N. Pandey: He has been appointed Chairman of the Central Board of Direct Taxes.

P.K. Chandra: He has taken over as acting Chairman of Oil and Natural Gas Commission (ONGC).

Resigned

Rattan Tata: Chairman of Air India.

Rahul Bajaj: Chairman of Indian Airlines.

Distinguished Visitors

Alhaj Ali Hasan Mwinyi: President of Tanzania.

Yuli Vorontsov: First Deputy Foreign Minister of USSR.

Vary Dippertnan Agong Sultan Azlan Shah: King of Malaysia.

Jigme Singhe Wangchuk: King of Bhutan.

Stephen Solarz: Chairman of the US House Committee on Asia and the Pacific.

S.K. Upadhyaya: Foreign Minister of Nepal.

Ranjan Wijeratne: Foreign Minister of Sri Lanka.

Abdul Sattar: Special envoy of Prime Minister of Pakistan, Ms Benazir Bhutto.

Died

Andrei Sakharov: Nobel Peace Prize winning Physicist who became a symbol of Human Rights in Soviet Union. He was 68.

Ben Jones: Prime Minister of Grenada.

K. Shankar Pillai: Internationally acclaimed cartoonist. He was 87.

Samuel Beckett: Nobel Prize winning playwright, poet and novelist. He was 86.

EVENTS

DECEMBER

10—First non-Communist majority Cabinet in last 41 years is sworn in Czechoslovakia.

11—Bulgaria ends monopoly of Communist Party on Power.

13—Dr Rubaiya Sayeed, daughter of the Union Home Minister, Mufti Mohammed Sayeed is released by the secessionist Jammu & Kashmir Liberation Front (JKLF) men in exchange for five militants.

15—Five towns of Jammu & Kashmir are put under curfew.

18—The first session of the historic ninth Lok Sabha opens.

20—US troops oust General Noriega, President of Panama.

21—National Front Government wins vote of confidence in the Lok Sabha.

22—Romanian dictator Nicolae Ceausescu is toppled by a popular uprising.

23—Fierce fighting erupts for control of Romania. More than 70,000 people are reported killed.

26—78 people are killed in extremist linked violence in Sri Lanka.

30—Poland proclaims itself as "a democratic State ruled by law".

JANUARY

2—US troops pullout from Panama begins.

—The two Election Commissioners, Mr S.S. Dhanoa and Mr V.S. Seigell, who were appointed under controversial circumstances, just before the Lok Sabha elections, by the Rajiv Gandhi Government, are removed.

4—Gen Manuel Antonio Noriega ousted dictator of Panama surrenders to US troops.

—Terrorists gun down 5 revenue officers near Ropar in Punjab.

—At least 250 persons are killed and over 700 injured in the worst ever rail accident in Pakistan.

8—13 persons are killed in violence in Jammu & Kashmir.

—The President, Mr R. Venkataraman returns the controversial Postal Bill for reconsideration by the Parliament.

10—A powerful explosion in the office of 75th battalion of the Punjab Armed Police in Jalandhar kills its Commandant Gobind Ram and three of his guards.

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A LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

More Opportunities for Youth

Dear Reader,

Thousands of ambitious youth will surely welcome the announcement raising the UPSC age limit for appearing in various competitive examinations by two years. There have been many cases of well qualified youth, both men and women, being denied the opportunities for career building they sought merely because they had crossed the age limit. The earlier age bar was defended by several official spokesmen on grounds of optimum proficiency and intellectual capacity, but hardly anyone can deny the effect because of disruption in studies as a result of inter-school frequent social or political upheavals, or because of illness or domestic circumstances. Scores of young men and women are unable to clear competitive examinations within the prescribed age limit. For them the gates will now be opened wide. The country as a whole may also benefit from this concession, since all talent does not develop early or flower with age.

We are, however, surprised to find that some persons have criticised this concession and have gone to the extent of describing it as an unproductive waste of money by a misdirected notion of pragmatism and development. All aspirants for superior posts have undeniably received a bonus from the Union Government, but many people feel that this will not enhance, and may even lower, the quality of the bureaucracy. Besides, a full endurable competency among youth because of the knowledge that there is plenty of time to appear in competitions since they can afford to lose three or four attempts. The feeling of urgency would disappear. To some extent, this would mean an additional burden on parents who would have to bear the expenses involved in longer periods of preparation by their sons and daughters, but in many cases this might bring dividends in the shape of better selections.

There is another aspect of the matter that needs prompt corrective. The reason to be aware of delayed opportunities for advancement is that, as much as possible, the career path should be clear and unobstructed. The government should not only prompt youth to demand reasonable salaries but also ensure that their financial demands for further education might not be excessive.

The latest measure of advancement made by the government to decide on a feeble plea for faster promotion is the best way to ensure that the career path is clear and unobstructed.

Such advanced age would give career building and promotion a new dimension that might have widespread implications. The government should ensure that the career path is clear and unobstructed. Appointments and promotions should be based on merit and not on seniority.

With Best Wishes

Yours sincerely,

EDD POF - HEDULMANG

[Signature]

India-Pakistan Confrontation

One of the most serious and persistent threats to the peace and stability of the Indian subcontinent is the long-standing and bitter enmity between India and Pakistan. This enmity, which has its roots in the partition of the subcontinent in 1947, has been a major factor in the region's history of conflict and instability. The two nations have fought three wars, and there have been numerous border skirmishes and acts of terrorism. The situation is particularly tense in the disputed region of Kashmir, where both nations claim sovereignty. The Indian government has consistently maintained its position on Kashmir, while Pakistan has sought international support to challenge India's claims. The recent developments in the region have once again brought the issue to the forefront of international attention. The Indian government has expressed its deep concern over the situation and has vowed to take all necessary steps to protect its territorial integrity. The international community has called for a peaceful resolution of the dispute, but the Indian government has made it clear that it will not compromise on its principles. The situation remains highly volatile, and the potential for further conflict is ever-present. It is crucial that the Indian government continue to maintain its firm stance while seeking a peaceful resolution to the dispute. The stability of the Indian subcontinent is at stake, and the world must watch closely as the situation unfolds.

READERS' FORUM

STABILITY OR CHAOS

Your cover feature "Stability or Chaos, a Crucial Year for India" rightly reflects the pique and prejudices of Mr Rajiv Gandhi's approach and focusses attention on the speedy introduction of radical reforms to streamline the worn-out system, by the National Front Government at the Centre. The new government has made it clear right at the start that securing a national consensus on vital issues affecting the country would be one of its main aims. That would mark a long overdue change which would certainly contribute to the Government's stability and popularity.

Vani Vihar

Sashikanta Panda

Your cover feature "Stability or Chaos?" was a pertinent assessment of the present political scenario in the country. Needless to say, the National Front Government has to make compromises at almost every step because for its existence it is dependent on the support of two contradictory political forces—the BJP and the Communists.

Though Mr V.P. Singh's hope of the "emergence of a new political equilibrium" was marred by internal squabbles in the Janata Dal, the precarious balance of political parties is certainly understandable as there is hardly any alternative. Considering the specific priorities and style of functioning of Mr V.P. Singh, there is enough ground to be optimistic that the flaws of the Rajiv regime, such as bureaucratic arbitrariness, excessive secrecy and lack of accountability to the people—will be eliminated before long.

Pun

Narendra Nath Sahoo

OUR RIGHTS

Your special feature "Right to Information & Work" (Feb '90) is undeniably in keeping with the demands of the time. These two rights are designed to lead us to perfection. Knowledge of public affairs as well as official policies must strengthen the foundation of our democratic set-up. Reports of enquiries and findings of commissions should indeed be made public.

When these rights are assured, there would be obvious curtailment of corruption, crime, violence, terrorism and other malpractices. There would also be full use of the country's vast man-power for national progress.

The inclusion of the Right to Know and Work in the Fundamental Rights enumerated in the Constitution will surely be in the national interest.

Patna

Shen Jee Pandey

FISCAL POLICIES FOR DEVELOPMENT

I read with interest your article "Fiscal Policies for Development" (Jan '90 issue) which described the new direction of fiscal policies and its useful application in an underdeveloped economy. Classical economists like Adam Smith never favoured intervention of the State in the economic life of a society, but as is evident, the role of the State is necessary and cannot be avoided.

A well-conceived and sound fiscal policy is vital for functioning of the State. But how far has its usefulness been realised?

Taxation and expenditure are the two sides of the same coin. Other fiscal agents are public debt, loans and subsidies, etc. If we consider the developmental process, how far can India progress with large-scale loan relief and subsidised schemes?

As empirical evidence has shown, revenues fall behind expenditure in underdeveloped countries. Deficits are common features of State finances. The Government of India, as well as the people, feel much concerned about the growing budgetary deficit. In an election year non-plan expenditures are reduced, but much more has to be done to contain deficit-induced inflation.

Bolangir

Srikrishna Chaitanya Hota

CASTE FACTOR IN POLITICS

The prevailing system of caste in our polity, as you have rightly mentioned in your topical essay "Caste Factor in Politics" (February '90 issue), has created countless heroes of limited vision. Leaders of less acumen and questionable merit have come to the forefront just to portray caste issues instead of important national issues vitally affecting the interests of the masses. Such leaders serve their own interests by dividing people in the name of caste and creed.

The need of the time is to raise the standard of education so that the caste system and other social evils may be eclipsed.

Arrah

Vinay Kumar

Your article "New Government, New Agenda" (Feb '90 issue) reflects only a bright view of Mr V.P. Singh's "new agenda". Three major problems identified for immediate treatment by the new Government are: inflation, budgetary deficit and the balance of payment problem.

Roorkee

Chunni Lal Khatri

CLEAN GOVERNMENT

Your editorial "New Govt: Illusion and Reality" places a big question mark on every citizen's mind. Though people have voted for an alternative to the Congress, it is yet to be seen how long the alliance now in power survives. While the leftists and the Rightists (the parties giving unconditional support to the new Government) have differences in their basic principles and manifestos, it is not easy to forget the way the Janata Government (1977-79) was crippled due to mutual jealousies, differences of opinion and excessive personal ambitions.

The new government faces complex problems such as those of Punjab, the Ram Jankabhai-Babri Masjid issue, Bodoland and the alarming situation in Kashmir which is drifting dangerously. The recent anti-reservation stir is

yet another threat to the survival of the National Front.

During the past five years India's foreign policy has caused dissatisfaction, discontent and suspicions among our neighbouring countries, despite the fact that India did her best to maintain cordial relations.

It is up to the new Government to use the eraser on all the deeds of the former regime and ensure a clean, honest and efficient administration in this hour of crisis.

Kanpur

Banibrata Saha

Your editorial "New Govt—Illusion and Reality" is a fair analysis of the new trends of thinking in the ruling party at the Centre. The Indian electorate voted against the Congress. The lofty promises which Mr Rajiv Gandhi made at the start of his regime remained unfulfilled even though he had a full term of office. What finally counts is the overall performance, not empty rhetoric.

Amidst the baffling problems, Mr V.P. Singh has begun well. He heads a minority Government whose survival depends solely on the support of the BJP and the Left parties which are diametrically opposite in ideology. The challenges of communalism and religious fundamentalism are indeed formidable. The situation in Punjab, Kashmir and other parts of the country is grave. Reconciling the stands of the Right and the Left is indeed an uphill task.

Koraput

Lalitendu Kanungo

I read the cover feature "Tough Tasks Before Government" with deep interest. You have touched almost all the problems, tasks and challenges facing the new Government.

But in my view the major challenge is the Kashmir Problem. The growing separatism in Punjab and Kashmir is causing deep anxiety. The problem of Kashmir is even more complicated than that of Punjab.

Godda

Azhar Shams Rahmani

As a regular subscriber since my school days, I want to express my gratitude to the "Competition Master", which has provided valuable and ample information and guidance in my endeavour to achieve my cherished goal. I have come out successful in the Arunachal Pradesh Civil Services examination, getting third place in the merit list.

I hope your magazine will continue to inspire confidence among the millions of our struggling youths in attaining their respective goals.

Ziro

Robin Ribou

May be you have recently appeared in any competitive examination.

We shall be grateful if you could send us the question papers. The original papers will be returned along with the postage spent by you.

Your gesture will be highly appreciated.

Notes on Current National Affairs

- ★ CRITICAL SITUATION IN KASHMIR
- ★ CHINA'S GESTURE TO INDIA
- ★ STRAINS IN INDIA-LANKA RELATIONS
- ★ BOFORS CASE NOW IN COURT
- ★ FOCUS ON FARMERS
- ★ MORE KIDNAPPINGS BY NAXALITES
- ★ JOBS-FOR-ALL COMMITMENT
- ★ UPPER HOUSE FOR ANDHRA PRADESH
- ★ PRESIDENT'S TIMELY WARNING
- ★ PACT ON ASSAM ACCORD
- ★ NEW GOVT'S EDUCATION PLAN
- ★ STEPS FOR MINORITY WELFARE
- ★ MORE LIGHT ON SUBS SCANDAL

Critical Situation in Kashmir

Rapid political developments and militants' intense activity in the shape of bomb blasts, arson and violence in other forms rocked Kashmir Valley in recent weeks. The then Governor, Gen. K.V. Krishna Rao, submitted his resignation and Mr Jagmohan, who had served as Governor for five years (1984-1989), was reappointed to the post on January 17. Dr Farooq Abdullah resigned in protest the next day and the State was thus without a ministry. The Farooq coalition contended that Mr Jagmohan had been thrust on the State. The State was placed under Governor's rule—for the third time since 1977.

Mr Jagmohan kept the 78-member State Assembly in suspended animation, leaving scope for political parties to regroup and form a government. Governor's rule had been imposed in March, 1977, when the Congress (I) withdrew its support to the Government headed by Sheikh Abdullah and again in 1986 when the G.M. Shah Government was dismissed.

Since there was no other political group in the Assembly strong enough and willing to stake its claim to forming a government after Dr Abdullah's resignation, Mr Jagmohan had no alternative but to impose Governor's rule. His major task is to tackle the problems of unemployment and corruption. He announced several austerity measures.

Mr Jagmohan wanted the people to call Governor's rule as "Governor's service" because he had decided to work as a "nursing orderly" for the betterment of the people. The top heavy administration is proposed to be pruned and the pattern of development reoriented.

Mr Ved Marwah, National Security Guard Chief, was appointed as one of the advisers. Mr Jagmohan may get support from various segments but the NC(F) and the Congress (I), at least a section of it, and the militants and their supporters are not cooperating with him.

India's "Warning" to Pak: Indo-Pakistan relations worsened during recent weeks as a result of Islamabad's continuous and all-out support to militants operating in the Kashmir Valley. The militant and subversive elements, trained and equipped with weapons in Pakistan territory, have been trying to create disorder through bomb explosions, sabotage and arson. India has cautioned Pakistan that the consequences of such events could lead to perilous consequences.

Socio-economic problems were being given a religious colour by the Pakistani side. Pakistan has been asked not to fish in troubled waters. The Kashmir and Punjab problems would be resolved, though it might take time. Agitations were part of the democratic process, the Indian side stressed.

New Delhi was of the view that the Pakistani fulminations could be due more to the internal crisis facing the minority government of Ms Benazir Bhutto. India felt that the Pakistan Government was itself instigating public opinion in the country on the Kashmir issue and thereby creating problems in bilateral relations.

Sahabzada Yaqub Khan, Pakistan's Foreign Minister, was in New Delhi from January 21 to 23 (within 10 days of the visit of Ms Bhutto's special envoy, Mr Abdul Sattar). He was cautioned that every Indian carried on his shoulder the weight of 1,000 years of history and no Indian would stand by idly while the country was subjected to pressure of disintegration. But Pakistan has denied any involvement in J & K and warned that it would not allow India "to exert pressure on Pakistan".

India has evidence of the involvement of Pakistan-based Afghan Mujahideens in fomenting trouble in Jammu and Kashmir. Some unemployed Afghans were being trained as fighters in Pakistani occupied Kashmir.

During his meeting with the Chinese Ambassador, Mr Gujral referred to the terrorist activities in Punjab and Jammu and Kashmir and

impressed upon him that "in the changed environment of better relations between India and China, Beijing must help in keeping the environment of the sub-continent friendly". U.S. officials have been told that as a major power involved in this region, the US had an important stake in preserving peace and tranquility.

Meanwhile, Prime Minister V.P. Singh is understood to have persuaded the former Jammu and Kashmir Chief Minister Farooq Abdullah to play an active role and help the administration in restoring peace and normalcy in the Valley. During a 90-minute long meeting with Dr Abdullah, the Prime Minister stressed that all secular and nationalist forces had a vital role in safeguarding the unity and integrity of the country which had been threatened by pro-Pakistan militants. Dr Abdullah had been called to Delhi on January 26 by the Central Government to discuss the political situation in the State.

Propaganda war: Pakistan has in recent weeks been carrying on anti-Indian propaganda in a bid to convince foreigners that India is committing atrocities in the Kashmir Valley. India is also accused by Pakistani spokesmen of persistently flouting U.N. resolutions on Kashmir. To counter this false propaganda offensive, India has initiated diplomatic moves. This follows Pakistan Foreign Minister's visit to New Delhi during which he made provocative observations which were "tantamount almost to an ultimatum".

External Affairs Minister I.K. Gujral has already apprised the Ambassadors of Arab countries, members of the European Economic Community, the Chinese Ambassador and U.S. Assistant Secretary of the situation.

Foreign Secretary S.K. Singh visited Moscow to brief the Soviet leadership of the "dangerous situation" and then went to Washington for the same purpose. Secretary in the External Affairs Ministry Muchkund Dubey went to Colombo and Kuwait, headquarters of the Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC), and Baghdad. The SAARC countries are also being kept informed.

JKLF seeks world support: Leaders of Pakistani-based Kashmiri organisations are travelling world capitals seeking political support for Pakistan-trained militants who have stepped up activity in Kashmir. "We are trying to escalate our struggle on three fronts—political, diplomatic and armed", founder of the Jammu and Kashmir Liberation Front (JKLF) told the New York Times.

Mr Mohammed Abdul Qayyum, President of Pakistan-Occupied Kashmir (POK) went to Mecca to raise the issue at a meeting of the Islamic nations where minority problems were discussed. His trip to the U.S.A. to meet leaders and UN officials coincided with increased activities by militants in Kashmir.

Mr Amanullah Khan, whose organisation kidnapped the Indian Home Minister's daughter in December, conceded that they were supporting guerillas in Kashmir with money. The money was "raised privately", he claimed. Mr Khan, whose organisation is allowed to operate freely in Pakistan, said one of his group's "psychological ploys" is to embarrass India by painting it in international organisations as a "colonial power in the region". It is believed that he wants to establish an independent Greater Kashmir that would also incorporate some areas of Pakistan. But the Azad Kashmir leader would limit Kashmir to the Jammu and Kashmir State, including POK. He favours its ultimate incorporation in Pakistan.

The J & K Liberation Front, it is learnt, had planned to declare Kashmir an Islamic Republic on the occasion of Republic Day (Jan 26). Foreign journalists were specially invited to record and report the event in full. Microphones had been installed in the Srinagar streets for making the announcement. But the plan was foiled by the State authorities. In fact, a full-scale insurrection had been planned by the subversive elements, with the cooperation of "Azad Kashmir" Radio. They evidently had in mind Iran's example where a revolution was staged several years ago by Ayatollah Khomeini.

Soviet Union deplores Interference: Responding to India's deep concern over Pakistani militants' actions in Kashmir Valley, the Soviet Union on January 28 deplored the "foreign hand" in Kashmir, especially Pakistan's active support to secessionists. The Soviet Foreign Minister, Mr Eduard Shevardnadze, affirmed his country's commitment to "the democratic, peace-loving India".

Welfare steps for J & K: In a bid to remove some of the grievances of the people and win over the aggrieved sections of the Kashmiris, the new Governor of Jammu and Kashmir on January 24 announced welfare measures, including relief of Rs 1 lakh for innocent people killed in police firing or terrorist violence, and steps to relieve the unemployment problem. Dependents of victims of police firing or terrorist violence would also be given government jobs.

Police personnel who get killed in the discharge of their duty will be given Rs 25,000 from the Governor's Welfare Fund in addition to the normal relief and their dependents will be provided employment. This relief will also be given to the dependents of policemen who were killed in the last six months.

In order to relieve the unemployment problem, five battalions of the Border Security Force will be raised in Kashmir and 3,000 teachers recruited. Together, these measures will provide employment to 10,000 youths.

The Government has earmarked Rs 25 crore for the construction of school buildings which have been a target of the terrorists. A special cell will ensure construction of these buildings on priority. It has also been decided to reorganise the chowkidari and numbardari systems and raise their emoluments in order to make them more effective.

Meanwhile, six National Conference MLAs today demanded withdrawal of para-military forces from the Kashmir Valley. In a joint statement, they also demanded a judicial enquiry into the recent killings of "Innocent persons" and uncondi-

onal release of those arrested. The statement urged stoppage of searches.

Mr Rajiv Gandhi's concern: Many of the parties supporting the National Front Government's decisions in respect of Kashmir have described Mr Rajiv Gandhi's "deep concern" over the deterioration in the situation in the Valley as hypocritical. These groups blame the Congress administration for the mess.

A Janata Dal spokesman, Mr Jaipal Reddy, claimed that Mr Gandhi was "personally and wholly responsible for the explosive situation prevailing in the Kashmir Valley today". Mr Reddy recalled how Mr Gandhi had first accused Dr Farooq Abdullah of anti-national activities and later "forced himself as an electoral ally of Dr Abdullah".

China's Gesture to India

The latest message from Beijing to the Government of India reflects a desire to further promote the understanding reached some months ago. China has proposed an early meeting of Foreign Ministers. This gesture has to be judged in the context of the deteriorating relations between India and Pakistan.

China's Ambassador to India, Tu Guowen, said in Delhi on January 30 that the two countries had agreed to make *panch-sheel* or the five principles of peaceful co-existence the foundation for the establishment of a new international political and economic order. On this basis, the future of the Indo-China relations is "bright and broad".

The cornerstone of Chinese foreign policy is "to strengthen unity and develop cooperation with the Third World countries". The ambassador lauded the significant rôle played by Third World countries in promoting disarmament, fighting hegemonism, preserving world peace, propelling international co-operation, promoting common development and upholding the cause of international justice.

"Rebuffs to India": The Congress

(I) however has taken a different view of Chinese gestures. Quoting reports from Pakistan, a party spokesman contended that Indian overtures to China had met with a rebuff. China, the spokesman said, had responded to India's gesture by taking the position that it would stand by Pakistan. "This is a slap on the face of the Indian Government."

Strains in India-Lanka Relations

As a result of the latest developments, new strains in India-Sri Lanka relations have developed. These are in part a sequel to the improbability of sticking to the revised deadline (March 31, 1990) for completing withdrawal of the IPKF from the island republic.

There has been no progress in disarming the mutually hostile Tamil militant groups. Besides, there is a perceptible hardening of the attitude of the Tamil Tigers, on the one hand, and the EPRLF, on the other. If the Indian troops were to pull out in these circumstances, the northern and eastern parts of the island will dangerously slip into a 1985-like confrontation between warring factions of the ethnic minority.

Another hurdle is the Sri Lanka Government's stalling of the proposed peace and friendship treaty, the revised contents of which have not been found acceptable to Colombo. The National Front regime in Delhi has adopted the position which the Rajiv Gandhi Government took after it signed the accord in July, 1987. The National Front too wants to incorporate the two clauses that led to a sense of partial surrender of sovereignty among the Sinhalese.

India is pressing for a commitment from Sri Lanka that it will not provide berthing or repair facilities to naval ships from any third country, particularly one that is not very friendly to India. It wants that Trincomalee should be declared out of bounds for the formidable US armada, even if the Diego Garcia base is closed by 2010.

India's second condition is that the island will not be used to carry on

propaganda against India. The reference is to the permission which the Voice of America has secured to broadcast news and comments for a limited period every day. India wants the treaty to be in place before the last IPKF man leaves the Sri Lankan shores, but Colombo is dragging its feet. The latest interpretation of Sri Lanka's move is that it may jeopardise the 1987 Jayewardene-Rajiv Gandhi Pact. It may also pose a threat to the present understanding of international law.

Bofors Case Now in Court

At long last a criminal case was filed by the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) in connection with the allegations of corruption relating to the Bofors gun deal.

In a 66-page FIR, filed in a Delhi court on January 22, 14 accused have been listed. These include Mr Martin Ardbo, former president of Bofors, Mr Win Chadha and Mr G.P. Hinduja. The other accused have not been identified but are referred to as directors or beneficiaries of certain companies, including Bofors, Anatronics General Corporation, New Delhi, Svenska Inc. of Panama, Pitco/Moresco/Moineao of Switzerland and A.E. Services Ltd of U.K. These were allegedly the companies to which payments have admittedly been made by the Bofors, totalling to more than 319.40 Swedish kroners (about Rs 64 crore at the then prevailing exchange rate).

The offences mentioned in the FIR are: criminal conspiracy, corruption, abuse of official position by public servants and thereby securing pecuniary advantage, cheating, criminal breach of trust and forgery.

The case related to the contract entered into by the Government of India with Bofors on March 24, 1986, for the supply of 410 field Howitzer (155 mm) 77-B guns by Bofors at a cost of Rs 1,437 crore. No public servant has yet been mentioned by name as accused person; what is stated is "certain public servants of the Government of India". The FIR is only a launching pad from which investi-

gation commences.

Swiss accounts frozen: The Swiss Government on January 27 froze the bank accounts of A.E. Services and Svenska, and certain individuals identified by the code names "Lotus", "Tulip" and "Mont Blanc". The accounts were frozen on the request of the CBI and would remain so till investigations were completed.

The Interpol charter requires all member-countries to cooperate in cases of forgery and criminal conspiracy. Both India and Switzerland are signatories to the charter.

Focus on Farmers

For the first time, as many as 268 M.P.s in the Lok Sabha belong to the rural areas. In the first Lok Sabha there were only five members who belonged to the farming community. The National Front Government is going all out to solve the problems of agriculturists. The Government has decided to set up a seven-member committee to advise the Planning Commission on agriculture policy matters. It will consist of representatives of farmers.

Mr Devi Lal, Deputy Prime Minister and Agriculture Minister, stated on Jan 31 that this had been done to secure larger participation of the farming community and for the benefit of the rural people. It has also been decided to constitute a commodity management board which would take care of essential commodities. The board will have members of the farming community and consumers on it. All government departments have been directed to study the manifesto of the ruling party and take steps to implement it in letter and in spirit.

The Janata Dal has already allocated 50 per cent of the national resources for the rural sector. The farmers would be provided with credit on liberal terms to help them step up productivity. Efforts would be made to provide better access to credit facilities to small land-holders. Regarding the waiver of loans up to Rs 10,000 to small, marginal and landless cultivators and artisans, the Department of Agriculture have

been actively pursuing the matter with the Department of Economic Affairs for an early decision.

It has been decided to introduce a formula for adjustment of support prices, taking inflation into account, from the date of announcement to the time of marketing. The terms of trade between agricultural and non-agricultural sectors would be re-examined to safeguard the interests of the farmers. To go into all these aspects, an expert committee under the chairmanship of Dr C.H. Hanumantha Rao has been set up. The committee would submit its final report by April.

The allocation of funds for rain-fed areas for the development of watersheds would be doubled. Special initiatives would be taken to reclaim usar land in U.P. Steps are also being taken for timely and adequate supply of inputs to cultivators.

More Kidnappings by Naxalites

On three successive days (Jan 30 and 31) the Naxalites in Andhra Pradesh kidnapped some persons and demanded release of a couple of their comrades from detention. On January 30 Naxalites of the People's War Group struck again, kidnapping a district education officer, even as the fate of nine people, including a Mandal Praja Parishad president and four policemen, kidnapped by the group hung in the balance. Earlier, the extremists abducted the DEO at Vatangi village in East Godavari district.

Meanwhile, the Andhra Pradesh Director-General of Police, Mr Sushil Kumar, announced that all under-trial Naxalites, most of whom arrested under the Terrorists and Arms Practices (Prevention) Act, were being released. Since December last, 64 under-trial Naxalites have been set free and the release of the remaining was being expedited.

Reacting to the demand of the kidnappers of the education officer that Lathavani, one of the Naxalites, be released, the police said the woman was being escorted to Vatangi village in East Godavari

district. All the 13 abducted persons were released by the Naxalites on Feb 2, while the police set free some of the Naxals who had been detained. But four more policemen were kidnapped by PWG Naxals on February 6.

The Andhra Pradesh Government is studying the genuine socio-economic problems of Naxalites and seek a negotiated settlement. According to former Governor Ms Kumud Joshi, socio-economic exploitation was the main factor behind the problems facing the Naxals and the Jogsins. A human approach could yield positive results; an inhuman approach of pushing them against the wall would only result in a strong reaction.

Jobs-for-all Commitment

At the end of January the Central Government reiterated its commitment to provide all possible opportunities for gainful employment to everyone. A meeting of youth leaders is to be convened from the grassroots level upwards. The Prime Minister hopes that valuable inputs would emerge from the meeting which would go into the formulation of a dynamic policy for promoting the interests of the youth of the country and for involving them in every aspect of national endeavour.

The Prime Minister observed that the youth were a tremendous force and it has the strength to change the entire face of India.

In our struggle to build a new India, our young friends must be at the forefront and continue to play a historic role. Their courage, enthusiasm and idealism will be pitted against all forms of injustice and vested interests. Victory will be with those who stand for the dignity of the individual and greatest good of the nation.

The Centre will prepare a paper to give a "concrete shape" to the Government's policy on youth. The paper will be prepared to provide a "useful base". A national convention on youth was organised by the National Front.

The Government will encourage technologies which acted as "harbingers" to employment generation. This, however, could not be achieved in a year or two. The right to work did not mean assured employment in the government. It is to be achieved by creating large-scale employment, particularly in rural areas, by investing more capital in producing mass consumption articles. Labour should also be given proper status in society. At present, certain jobs were looked down upon. Unless this was changed, "we can never achieve social and economic justice".

Upper House for Andhra Pradesh

Article 169 (1) of the Constitution provides for the formation of an upper House, to be called the Legislative Council, in the States, through action by Parliament. If the Legislative Assembly of any State passes a resolution by a two-thirds majority seeking a Council, the proposal is followed up at the Central level. An existing Legislative Council can also be abolished through the same procedure. Since the promulgation of the Constitution in 1950, several States have either created or abolished upper chambers, mostly on political and partisan considerations.

The Andhra Pradesh Legislative Assembly on January 22 adopted a resolution seeking creation of a Legislative Council. The AP Legislative Council, in which the Congress enjoyed a majority, was abolished by the Telugu Desam Government in 1985. The Congress had pledged in its election manifesto to revive the Council.

This was the first major exercise completed by the present Government in reversing decisions of the previous regime. To deal with several other matters like the Mandal System for decentralisation of administration, or single window co-operative outlets in villages, the State Government has appointed committees.

The resolution for creation of a Council was passed by a 195-80 vote,

satisfying the requirement of a two-thirds majority prescribed by the Constitution.

In U.P., on the contrary, the Janata Dal Government has planned a move to abolish the upper House, apparently because it has a majority of Congressmen. The Dal has little representation in the existing Council.

President's Timely Warning

Generally, the President's Republic Day address to the nation is full of platitudes and familiar observations, but the speech which Mr R. Venkataraman delivered on January 25 this year contained several pertinent observations pertaining to the current situation. He called upon political parties and their associates to avoid the malpractices noticed in the Lok Sabha elections.

He felt confident that in the elections to the State Legislatures the electoral malpractices noticed during the Lok Sabha poll would be eschewed by political parties and their associates. In any democracy, the people did want, and had every right, to change governments according to their wishes, in a peaceful and orderly manner. Monopoly of political power was an attribute of dictatorships, the President declared. This was evidently a reference to the long rule of the Congress (I) at the Centre.

Democracy is the rule of law and is also the rule of reason. It is, in fact, a rule by consent. Every effort would, therefore, be made (by the new regime) to arrive at a consensus on all national issues. The President took the opportunity to remind the people that apart from the responsibilities that devolved on the Government and on the Opposition, a greater responsibility rested with them.

It was wrong to imagine that only governments had the duty to maintain law and order, peace, harmony and progress. The citizen bore an equal responsibility in this regard. It was a bond between the citizen and the State in which one sustained and was sustained by the other. That was

why the Constitution laid down both Fundamental Rights and fundamental duties.

The assumption of office by any new government, Mr Venkataraman pointed out, conferred on it many new opportunities. The most important of these was the opportunity to strengthen the bonds between the citizen and the State (this is a task which several administrations have not succeed in accomplishing).

Pact on Assam Accord

Disconcerting developments in Assam and the Mohanta Government's grievances against the Central policies prompted both sides to reach an agreement on January 27. A time-bound plan has been evolved for implementation of various clauses of the Assam accord.

The Union Home Secretary, Mr Shiromani Sharma, and the Chief Secretary to the Assam Government, Mr A.P. Sarwan, signed the agreement after two rounds of discussions with the representatives of the All-Assam Students Union (AASU) and officials of the Union Home Ministry and the Assam Government.

A decision has also been taken to set up a special task force with Mr L.C. Jain, a Planning Commission member, as its chairman to formulate a comprehensive package of measures for all-round economic development of Assam in accordance with the accord. The new agreement provides for completion of pending investigations relating to detection and expulsion of post-1971 entrants by October 31, 1990.

The task force has been asked to submit an action plan by April-end this year and the Centre will take a decision within two months. The Union Home Minister has reiterated the Government's commitment to implement the Assam accord.

In view of the discontentment among the various factions of the ruling Asom Gana Parishad, the Chief Minister substantially expanded the State Ministry so as to give representation to more groups supporting the regime.

New Govt's Education Plan

The International Literacy Year and the Literacy Decade in India were launched by Prime Minister V.P. Singh in Delhi towards the end of January. He reiterated the National Front Government's commitment to promote both primary and adult education. The emphasis is on the need for a system of education that inculcates values in children. The objectives before the nation had been spelt out in the Constitution; these have to be reinforced with additional national concerns like respect for environment, commitment to women's equality and observance of the small family norm. No investment is considered too much for education that turned out good citizens with a strong sense of commitment to national ideals.

Resources are limited but in the Eighth Plan attention would be paid to programmes of health and family welfare, the alleviation of poverty, conservation of the environment along with industrial and agricultural development. "Human development—development of men, women and children—is of the highest importance and we will review and re-order our plan priorities and strategies accordingly", the Prime Minister announced. The literacy programme has to be implemented as a social mission involving every segment of society.

There are 15 million illiterates in the 15-to-38 age group which form the bulk of the work force. High quality primary education would be given top priority. Without basic health care and good basic education it would not be possible to lay the foundations of technical education.

Mr Ramakrishna Hegde pleaded for a time bound programme to wipe out illiteracy. India has made great progress in industry, agriculture and in launching its own satellite, but still 63 per cent of the population is illiterate. India also has one of the lowest per capita incomes in the world and thousands of villages are without potable water. He is hopeful of eradi-

cating illiteracy by the turn of the century.

Dr Adiseshiah and Prem Bhai explained their programme for eradicating illiteracy through *Jathas* and marches in the villages. Village-level literacy units are to be established. Songs, street plays, and audio and video cassettes are to be used to motivate people and an army of young educators is to be launched.

Steps for Minority Welfare

The minorities in the country constitute an important segment of the electorate and their support makes a considerable difference to the overall verdict in polls. Every political party, therefore, goes out of its way to look after their welfare and remove their grievances.

Accordingly, the National Front Government announced on January 25 a full-fledged package. The main features of the 15-point programme are:

1. Better representation of the minorities in services, especially in the police, and creation of composite police battalions consisting of members of minority and majority communities in the State for law and order duty.

2. Special courts would be set up exclusively to try communal offences in places where large-scale riots break out. While special courts have already been constituted, in Delhi and Meerut, a court at Bhagalpur in Bihar is being set up. The progress in the disposal of cases would be closely monitored.

3. The amount of ex-gratia relief granted for cases of death or permanent incapacitation fixed at Rs 20,000 per case is being revised upwards to Rs 50,000 for every case. A pension of Rs 500 per month would also be given to widows and riot victims with low income. These would become effective for cases occurring from April 1, 1990, onwards.

4. A special programme for the rehabilitation of weavers, most of whom belonged to minorities and who have been affected by

communal riots in Bhagalpur and Meerut, is being taken up.

More Light on Subs Scandal

India's suspicious deal for West German submarines acquired a new dimension early in February with the publication of a book by Naval Commander (retd) S.D. Sinha, who is an electronic warfare expert. The submarines, he has now disclosed, were bought "under political pressure" and contrary to the requirements of the Indian Navy. According to him, in the field of naval acquisitions the most callous and corrupt political deal was that for the attack submarine from the German firm (HDW) to be later built indigenously by the Mazagon docks.

Cdr Sinha says that the Indian Navy had evaluated the Swedish submarine but a great deal of pressure was brought on the then Chief of Naval Staff, Admiral R.L. Pereira, to alter his preference.

Following Admiral Pereira's refusal to change the specifications, the then Vice-Chief of Naval Staff called a few directors when the Naval Chief was away on a foreign tour and said that "he had been told that if they did not accept the HDW proposal, there would be no deal".

Cdr Sinha recalls that the Swedish Kockums proposal had progressed in 1979 but when the Janata Government fell, new factors came into play. After his return, Admiral Pereira wrote letters to the chairman of the negotiating committee saying that the HDW submarine was not built entirely to military specifications, which was very dangerous and unacceptable in the case of submarines.

The training offered by HDW was inadequate, while the Swedish Government was prepared to give full back-up commitments. The HDW was prepared to guarantee the supply of spares but the West German Government was not prepared to give such a guarantee. The weapons (torpedoes) offered were also not proven and their performance was not guaranteed.

Notes on Current International Affairs

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Pak Keen to Avoid War

After repeated fulminations, ultimatums and acts of intimidation against India in respect of Kashmir, the Pakistani Foreign Minister, Sahabzada Yaqub Khan seems to have calmed down somewhat. Perhaps recent U.S. pressure on Islamabad, through the affirmation of its support to the Simla agreement of 1972, has borne fruit. The USA, which had advised the two countries to enter into a political dialogue within the framework of the Shimla accord, appears worried over the rhetoric on the issue. It hopes that the leaders on both sides would exercise restraint and would not allow the rhetoric to get out of control in the overall interest of peace in the sub-continent.

On February 4, the Pakistan Foreign Minister denied reports that the Pakistani Army had been put on "high alert" along the cease-fire line in Jammu and Kashmir, and conceded that there was no report of intensified troop movement on the Indian side.

The Foreign Minister stressed his country was "keen" to avoid any "conflict, confrontation or war" with India. Such an eventuality is one which Pakistan would like to prevent. "We believe India is equally keen to avoid confrontation", he said, and added, "There are no alarming reports of Indian troop movement."

Both India and Pakistan had agreed to keep the channels of communication open to avert any misunderstanding that could lead to confrontation. That was, however, without prejudice to what Pakistan called its "unambiguous stand on Kashmir." The Foreign Minister refuted reports that there had been a "lukewarm" response from the Arab countries to the Kashmir issue and claimed that there was "deep sympathy from all countries for the Kashmir cause".

Pakistan, he said, had approached a number of countries, including China, to explain its stand on the issue. New Delhi has repeatedly charged Islamabad with supporting secessionist militants in Kashmir and interfering in its internal affairs—a

charge denied by Pakistan.

Asked whether the people of Pakistan Occupied Kashmir would be allowed to raise the Kashmir issue at the international level, Mr Yaqub Khan said this was not being considered by the Pakistan Government. In any case, the Pakistan Government was giving "high priority" to the issue.

Earlier, addressing the meeting, Begum Nusrat Bhutto said Pakistan's position on Kashmir remained unequivocal and steadfast—that Jammu and Kashmir was a "disputed territory" and only a plebiscite conducted under the auspices of the U.N. could settle the dispute.

Massive US Military Aid for Pak: Pakistan has once again been favoured by the US through a large dose of aid. It is the major beneficiary, along with Israel and Egypt, of the \$ 295-billion US defence budget for the next fiscal year beginning October 1. The budget sets at rest the speculation about the quantum of aid.

Of the \$ 4.2 billion appropriated in the new budget for grants under the Arms Export Control Act, Israel gets the lion's share of \$ 230 million. The total US military aid to Pakistan is likely to be about \$ 240 million—almost equal to what it received last year—since it expects some more funds under other military assistance programmes.

In addition to military aid, Islamabad will get economic assistance as well and its total US aid package this year will be about \$ 600 million.

Developments in E. Europe

The following are the latest developments in East Europe in the wake of the collapse of several Communist strongholds:

Party monopoly to end in Yugoslavia: The Yugoslav Government's proposal for the country's new constitution provides for reforms designed to abolish party monopoly, separate the State from the party, and end the party's attempts to meddle in the affairs of the economy. The proposal foresaw

the introduction of a multi-party system, free elections, and the full protection of individual human rights and freedoms—something over which a consensus had already been reached in the country. There are persistent demands in the north-western republics, Slovenia and Croatia, for full autonomy and for the creation of a confederation. The biggest differences are on the settlement of relations within the federation. Yugoslavia is orienting itself to enter Europe.

Major split in Bulgaria: Bulgarian leader Petur Mladenov has called for the traditionally combined roles of Communist party leader and Head of State to be separated to reflect the abolition of the party's monopoly on power. "The need to combine these two functions no longer exists."

Mr Mladenov intends to relinquish leadership of the party to devote himself as President to directing Bulgaria's transformation into a more democratic, multi-party society. The reform process is "irreversible", he said, adding that without reform the Communist party was headed for disaster, although it was still Bulgaria's "biggest and best organised" political force.

Communist Party Disbanded in Poland: The Communist Party of Poland, which led the overthrow of Communism, was disbanded at the end of January to form a Social Democratic Party of the republic. The Communists declared that their once-powerful party could never win the country's confidence. Earlier, delegates adopted a programme calling for free and democratic elections, parliamentary democracy, a multi-party system, and a market economy in which the State should retain "elements of intervention and social responsibility". In its new statutes, the party rejected such Communist dogmas as democratic centralism, dictatorship of the proletariat and socialist internationalism, coming out firmly for "full democracy within the party".

Czech Reds lose majority: Czechoslovakia's Communist party lost its absolute majority in Parliament on January 31, for the first time

since 1948, as independents and former dissidents replaced Communist MPs ahead of elections due in June. The Communist Party lost 104 of its 242 MPs in the shake-up making the 152 deputies without party affiliation, the biggest group in the 350-member Federal Assembly. About 20 Communist deputies lost their seats on December 28. By January 30 more than 80 others had resigned or been sacked by their party and replaced.

Azerbaijan—18,000 quit CPSU: Upto 18,000 members from Azerbaijan have surrendered their membership of the Communist party of the Soviet Union. The Azerbaijani leadership, instead of taking a firm stand in facing the problems, including that of 200,000 refugees, had succumbed to pressure from the popular front militants. Top leader Mikhailov ruled out talks with the Popular Front of Azerbaijan in the near future. The militants had gained the upper hand in the Popular Front which was initially established by democratic minded individuals.

The conflict between Azerbaijan and Armenia continues. Outbreaks of ethnic violence have plagued the two republics for over two years.

East Germany: The National Assembly of East Germany has formed a new "Government of National Responsibility", by including several opposition leaders in the cabinet. For the first time in 40 years the Cabinet is not wholly Communist. The overall situation is deteriorating, with strikes disrupting the economy.

The West German Government believes it has dispelled its neighbours' fears about German reunification and wants to lose no time in moving towards that goal after the East German elections on May 6. The Government is under pressure to stem the tide of immigrants from East Germany, which threatens to overwhelm West German facilities and denude East Germany of the manpower it needs to rebuild. A consensus emerged late in January from a parliamentary debate on a "Community of treaties" between leaders of the two Germans.

Romania: A split threatens the

new leadership. Mr S. Brucan, one of the most influential leaders of Romania's National Salvation Front, has resigned because of differences with other members.

New Peace Plan for Cambodia

A temporary division of Cambodia, two parallel governments and an important administrative role for the United Nations pending elections, have been proposed by Prime Minister Hun Sen. A cease-fire would be necessary and all military assistance to Cambodia's warring factions would have to end. Under those conditions elections could be held. "We can settle this problem this year", Hun Sen claimed.

The Australian plan proposed that the UN should administer Cambodia's central government as trustee pending elections and the country's UN seat, currently occupied by the opposition coalition in which Pol Pot's Khmer Rouge is the dominant partner, should be declared vacant.

Hun Sen believes the task would be too great for the UN alone. His proposal combines most of the Australian ideas with some of the step-by-step approach to peace advocated by Chatichai Choonhavan, the Thai Prime Minister.

These two governments must relinquish part of their authority to the United Nations, maintain Cambodian sovereignty and public order and would exercise daily control over our economic and social life. A National Council would be set up with the two governments participating. When Hun Sen refers to two governments, the second is the government of the Democratic People's Republic of Kampuchea—a coalition of three opposition groups, one led by Son Sann, a former Prime Minister who lives in exile in France, one led by Prince Norodom Sihanouk, the former Cambodian head of State, and one led by Pol Pot, whose four years in power from 1975 resulted in more than one million Cambodians being killed before the Vietnamese invaded to overthrow him.

Prince Sihanouk quits: The Cambodian tangle acquired a new dimension at the end of January when Prince Norodom Sihanouk announced he had resigned as President of the Resistance's coalition Government and would indefinitely cease meeting foreign diplomats. He has also indicated that he would not attend any international conference held to resolve the Cambodian crisis. But he would be a candidate for the country's presidency if a political solution were reached and general elections held.

Prince Sihanouk, who has quit several times in the past after disputes with his coalition partners, said he was resigning because of foreign accusations that he had become an accomplice in the communist Khmer Rouge's drive to regain power in Cambodia.

Namibia to have Multi-party Democracy

Namibia, now an independent State, is to have a new Constitution under which there will be a multi-party democracy, a bicameral Parliament, fundamental rights for the people, enforced entirely by an independent judiciary (as in India). Mr Sam Nujoma, who steered his South-West Africa People's Organisation to a convincing win in the November elections, will be the Executive President. The final constitution was adopted by the Constituent Assembly early in February. The Constitution explicitly lays claims to the disputed Port of Walvis Bay, the offshore island along the Namibian coast and the northern half of the Orange River—all claimed by South Africa.

The Constitution outlaws the death penalty, places severe restrictions on detention without trial and makes apartheid and racial discrimination a crime in this former South-West African territory which was under South African occupation for 75 years. The President will be both Head of State and Head of Government as well as commander-in-chief of the armed forces. He will administer the country with the help

of a Prime Minister and cabinet approved by him. There will be a National Council and an Assembly.

Provision is made for regional and local government and a council of traditional leaders. Regions are to be determined on a purely geographical basis with no reference to ethnic origins. On foreign relations Namibia is to follow the policy of non-alignment, international cooperation, peace and security. Namibia is to follow a policy of mixed economy with foreign investment encouraged, subject to the provisions of an investment code. There will be a defence force despite campaigns for Namibia not to have one.

New Crisis Brewing in Sri Lanka

President Premadasa is currently facing a multi-pronged campaign against him, with the country's main opposition, Sri Lanka Freedom Party (SLFP) headed by Mrs Srimavo Bandaranaike, urging all progressive anti-government forces in the country to unitedly fight the "barbaric" rule of Mr Premadasa. SLFP accused the government of abduction, murder and torture, and promised to restore the right of the people to live in a free society "where the rule of law prevails for all". The SLFP leaders promised to bring back to the people their inalienable right to vote and change the Government through free and fair elections. It accused the UNP of denying fair elections during its rule of over a decade.

Even more challenging is the SLFP's resolution to create world opinion against the "carnage and senseless killings" continuing in the country.

Threat of Armed Revolt: The Lanka North Eastern Provincial Council Chief Minister, Mr Varadaraja Perumal, vowed to take up arms to secure Eelam (a new State) if a meaningful devolution of powers and the safety and security of Tamils were not ensured.

If the Government of India fails to persuade or pressurise the Sri Lankan Government to concede the legitim-

ate demands of the Tamils, it should support the declaration of independence for Eelam, he said.

"Political Revolution in Russia"

After the switch to full democracy in East Europe, the Soviet Union itself could not remain behind. At the crucial Central Committee Plenum on February 5 the stage was set for the Communist Party to renounce its monopoly of power and restructure itself. The legal and other privileges of the CPSU have been given up. Another radical change is the proposed acceptance of private ownership of property. One by one the traditional features of Communism are being discarded. This indicates a change in the Soviet concept of democratic centralism; it is in effect a "political revolution".

On the plea that the Perestroika processes were being threatened by instability, weakened management and centrifugal tendencies, Mr Gorbachov sought all necessary powers to implement the reforms. There is a proposal to form an institution of Presidency with all powers to implement the policy of Perestroika. He called for realignment of forces in the upper echelons of power to give more dynamism to the reforms and ensure their irreversibility.

President Gorbachov, while addressing the Central Committee, proposed sweeping changes in the party leadership. Among the proposals are: doing away with the post he holds as General Secretary, appointing a Chairman and two Vice-Chairmen instead, society's democratisation at all levels, affirming the existence of a multi-party system (already in existence for all practical purposes).

It is proposed to amend Article 6 of the Constitution which currently places powers of complete rule in the hands of the Communist Party.

The decisions of the party plenum have made Mr Gorbachov even more powerful. He is officially reported to have staged another stunning victory. As for the Communist Party, it will now have to struggle

In a democratic framework to retain its leading States.

China Firm on Communism

While East Europe (and to a great extent, even the Soviet Union) has second thoughts on the validity of Marxism-Leninism and has opted for Western-type democracy, China, in contrast, again affirmed early in February its complete faith in the traditional Communist doctrine. Beijing leaders, like their comrades in Cuba, have in fact strongly condemned the recent developments in Europe. They are determined to stay put at all costs. Anti-government bodies in China have been banned.

Chinese party ideologues assert that "some currently fashionable theories of the West are insignificant" when one views them in the context of one hundred years of Marxism in the world. Among these theories, rejected by Beijing, are that Marxism-Leninism is "out-dated", "harmful" and negates the essential "pluralism" of development. Toeing the line of official spokesmen, senior administrators such as Mr Zhang Zhen, president of the National Defence University, and Mr Li Chengrul, vice-president of the international Statistics Society, have claimed that "Marxism-Leninism is the banner of our times" and that "only socialism can develop China".

Afghan President Warns Powers

While the proposed cuts in the strength of U.S. and Soviet troops have been welcomed by almost all countries, Afghanistan appears to be worried over the moves. The Afghan President, Dr Najibullah, warned on February 5 that any Soviet-US agreement on a mutual cut in arms supplies to the warring sides in Afghanistan would be impracticable without an accompanying cease-fire.

Any agreement on "negative symmetry" in arms supplies reached by the Soviet Foreign Minister, Mr

Eduard Shevardnadze, and the US Secretary of State Mr James Baker must be accompanied by four conditions. It should be comprehensive, not just a simple arms cut, because the bitter experience of the Geneva agreements has taught us that it is meaningless to have an agreement that is not implemented", Dr Najibullah said.

The four conditions he laid down were: The arms cut would cover not only the supply of Soviet weapons to his Government and US arms to the resistance, but all supplies from all sources; two, the cut-off should be accompanied by a cease-fire and a cessation of all armed activity by all parties; three, because both sides have huge arms stockpiles, these stocks should be removed under U.N. supervision, and four, reliable international guarantees should be secured to make Afghanistan a demilitarised zone.

Mandela to be Set Free

At long last good sense has prevailed among the white rulers of South Africa and there is a change of heart. Indications of gradual abandonment of racist and apartheid policies were given soon after Mr De Klerk was elected President of South Africa some months ago. He showed signs of reversing the decisions of Dr Botha, his predecessor, and promised liberalisation and justice to all Africans. On February 2 Mr Klerk announced sweeping political changes and the lifting of the ban on the African National Congress (ANC), early release of Dr Nelson Mandela, the world-famous freedom fighter, partial lifting of the emergency, besides removal of restrictions on 374 blacks who were human rights activists.

Outlining major concessions in a bid to persuade black leaders to enter into negotiations on "a shared future" in South Africa, the President told parliament Dr Mandela would be released unconditionally from 27 years of jail as soon as formalities are completed, taking into account his special status and security.

All exiles are now free to return

home; the death penalty will no longer be mandatory, all executions would be suspended, the state of emergency will be terminated as soon as possible and emergency regulations are being scrapped.

Along with ANC, the Pan Africanist Congress, the South African Communist Party and about 30 other organisations have been freed of emergency regulations. Many other political persons sent to jail because of their political affiliations would also be released.

Progressive S. African white rulers now appear to be eager to normalise the political process in the country "without jeopardising the maintenance of good order". The activities of the banned organisations, Mr Klerk thinks, longer threaten internal security.

Africans not to halt Campaign: The African National Congress has reiterated that it will not halt its military campaign and ruled out an early return of its headquarters from exile in Zambia. The notion of unilaterally abandoning armed struggle is out of the question. Any cessation of hostilities will have to be negotiated and will arise out of a mutually binding ceasefire". The Pan-African Congress of South Africa (PAC) will also continue the armed struggle despite the lifting of the ban on anti-apartheid organisations.

While most reactions have been positive, the right-wing Conservative Party and other ultra-right wing organisations of whites have announced their intentions to frustrate Mr De Klerk's reforms. The leader of the Conservative Party said that the President had no mandate to lift the ban on ANC and release Dr Mandela.

The National Executive Committee of the ANC has meanwhile issued a statement from London criticising what it describes as Pretoria's "political gamesmanship" and saying the ANC will not be "terrorised into negotiations".

ECONOMIC SCENE

HOLDING THE PRICE LINE

Q. Discuss the current price situation in India and the measures which the National Front government propose to tackle it.

Ans. Curbing inflation is priority No. 1 with the National Front government. And rightly so. Inflation is not a recent phenomenon but dates back to the 1940s. During the five decades, it has no doubt done some good. At one point of time, it was regarded 'good' for economic growth and a sign of prosperity. It is no longer so now since it has grown into daunting proportions, has sapped the vitality of the economy and caused serious social and economic distortions. Black money, inequitous income and wealth distribution, acute poverty and steep decline in the rupee value are its notable 'contributions', however undesirable.

What is the current price situation? How does the new government propose to tackle it?

The average annual inflation rate during the seventh five-year plan (which is coming to a close in a few months from now) has been placed at 6.6 per cent. The general price rise upto end-November 1989 has been of the order of 7.4 per cent. Though it is higher than that during the corresponding period in 1988, the overall situation is not as bad as the present government suggests. (The prices started coming down in October last). A 5-6 per cent increase in commodity prices is considered normal in a country like India. The knee-jerk efforts of the Congress government to contain inflation have paid off. Of course, the rate of consumer price index inflation is generally higher than the wholesale price index inflation because of the differences in weights assigned to different items of goods included in

the two types of indices.

The new government has, as a first step to arrest the price-uptrend, constituted a cabinet committee which has recommended the following steps for the purpose:

(1) Mass consumption goods like edible oils, pulses and rice should be imported. (2) The superior rice and tea should be exported and inferior qualities imported. This will serve the twin purpose of (a) reducing the outgo of foreign exchange reserves; and (b) augmenting the eroded stock of foreign exchange. (3) Import substitution should be resorted to only if it is cost-effective. For example, it is cheaper to import edible oils than to produce the same indigenously. Many countries are keen to supply edible oils on credit. (4) Import of luxury goods or kit culture imports and inputs for the manufacture of elitists should be banned. (5) Both the private and the public sectors should de-hoard stocks. (6) Subsidised food-grains should be provided to all those below the poverty line. It is a welcome measure but difficult to implement. (7) The sugar industry should be de-licensed. The price of sugarcane should be fixed but that of sugar be determined by the market forces.

WAIVER OF FARM LOANS

Q. Discuss critically the economics of writing-off of bank loans to farmers.

Ans. The present ruling party government has reiterated its firm resolve to implement the election pledge to write off bank loans upto Rs 10,000 as on October 2, 1989, which were advanced to marginal and small farmers, landless labourers and artisans in the villages. It was a good sop (or bribe?) to woo, at least, the credulous village voters reeling under the weight of debts.

Emerging triumphant at the polls

and forming a minority government with majority support, it is now in a tight corner in redeeming the thoughtless promise because of the resource constraints. In the very first address to the nation Mr V.P. Singh, Prime Minister, said that 'coffers are empty' seeking thereby an "escape valve" in the event of the government's inability to write off the loans as promised.

However, the finance minister is examining the financial implications of the waiver scheme. While no precise estimates of the total loan to be waived are available immediately, it is believed that it will involve a whopping sum ranging between Rs 8000 crore and Rs 13,000 to 14,000 crore, if the pledge is implemented in toto. "This cannot but be disastrous for the banks and the financial institutions generally." This editorial comment in the *Economic Times* must not go unheeded. The daily says further that the party's pledge is intended only to lighten the debt burden of the weaker sections of society and the write-off of loans was only a dramatic way of announcing the commitment. This is euphemism and a cover-up of the infeasibility of the election promise.

It is believed that neither the commercial banks nor the cooperative credit societies have the capacity to bear the loss of the proposed loan write-off. This scheme will mean extinction of the regional rural banks as their loan portfolio of Rs 2000 crore would have to be waived in entirety. The total loan offered by the RRBs and the public sector banks, falling under the category of credit to be waived, would be about Rs 8900 crore. The equity of own funds of the public sector banking system would be wiped out completely.

If all this is re-imbursed by the government it will be a bonanza for the banks but a big burden on the exchequer, leading to higher budgetary deficit.

The redemption of the pledge has a serious psychological impact on the entire commercial sector as well as the borrowers. The banker might fight shy of delivering the credit to the farmer or others, once a

precedent is set of its waiver. The borrower may develop the psychology that if the debt were not paid for long it might ultimately be written off.

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has always opposed across-the-board waiver of rural debt by a State government. In the recent past it did so in the case of Haryana State (during Mr Devi Lal's regime), Karnataka and Maharashtra. Now, the RBI Governor has stuck to this stand vis-a-vis the Central government and has accordingly written to the Centre not to go ahead with its proposal.

Observers apprehend that the National Front government would rather incur the wrath of the RBI than lose credibility of the electorate. The Centre is quite conscious of the fact that by implementing the commitment it would be setting a bad precedent.

In any case, it is working out the modalities and the time-frame of the scheme. The question of sharing the debt burden between the State governments, the Centre and the banks, including the cooperative credit societies, has yet to be settled.

While it is true that the small farmer needs credit, it must not be given away as a charity. What he needs is institutional credit with quality service and not a loan which is written off. What the present government should do is that the institutional credit is made easily available to the farmer, and the latter should utilise it for productive activities improving his repaying capacity of the debt taken.

WHITE PAPER ON ECONOMY

Q. Briefly dwell on the highlights of the white paper on the State of the Indian economy.

Ans. The first-ever white paper on the state of the Indian economy prepared by the five-member Economic Advisory Council (EAC) headed by Prof Sukhamoy Chakravarty has highlighted the structural imbalances that underline the current problems of the economy.

From the prolonged planning

and the policies followed has emerged an economy of imbalances: imbalances in income and wealth distribution between and within regions; imbalances in public income and expenditure; and imbalances in external trade. Growth in output has resulted in inequity (whereas the plan goal was equity); budgetary deficits; and negative trade balances.

The EAC has underscored three priority areas for immediate action. They are: re-orientation of growth for the current year; control of inflation; and balance of payments position.

(1) **Growth:** The EAC has estimated a comparatively low growth rate of four per cent in 1989-90 as against 9 per cent in 1988-89. This should not be construed as deterioration in the economy because the former is an increase over the top of a record high-rise base while the latter is on a low base of the drought year (1987-88).

The paper notes that the decade of the 1980s has been a period of higher growth in gross domestic product at around five per cent per annum which compares favourably with most of the developing countries. Resilience in the agriculture sector in the face of weather fluctuations, buoyancy in the industrial sector, rapid growth in exports, improvement in infra-structure are areas of strength of the economy, says the Council.

At the same time, some contradictions have erupted starkly which require modifications in the growth strategy as they will not go away on their own.

The EAC therefore focuses first on a shift in growth from production of consumer durables to essential wage goods. The objective is to make growth more employment-oriented. With rapid increase in employment, the demand for wage goods will rise which will mean more work opportunities in the non-agricultural sector, reduction in exodus from the rural to the urban areas and less pressure on agricultural land.

The new strategy will thus change the industrial investment pattern and hence the output composi-

tion. It will also effect an occupational re-distribution of population.

The EAC has suggested that import-intensive consumer goods and exports should be avoided. It eschews the words "import cut" even though "import management" is emphasised.

Correctives will have to be taken so that the benefits of competition and technology upgradation do not remain limited to the production of some consumer goods but also accrue to the producers of capital goods and intermediaries. Reduction in the cost of industrial raw materials and improvement in product quality are also recommended.

To reduce the budgetary deficits, which is central to any viable development strategy, the two-pronged attack should be on (a) the growth in non-developmental expenditure; and (b) maximisation of tax and non-tax revenues. It makes a special mention of defence as a substantial burden which, in its view, can be contained by improving relations with our neighbours and reduction in tension in the world. The moot question is whether the creation of such a climate is possible with our efforts alone and how soon. If it takes two or more countries to achieve peace, as it actually does, and, at that, quite long time, the proposed remedy cannot do much in the short-run. India's foreign policy during the last decade has, by and large, been quite satisfying. Efforts have also been made to establish peace and a new world order. But the outcome is little. In any case, the previous government pegged the expenditure on defence during the last two years.

The Central and the State subsidies must be reviewed. Anti-poverty subsidies should be targeted to the really poor people. Promotional subsidies should be more result-oriented.

Without prejudice, it may be said that the recommendations of the EAC are nothing but old wine in new bottles. Was not the Congress government aware of the shortcomings? Would it not have taken action as the new government may do now?

Family Life in 21st Century

This was one of the topics set in the English paper for the Reserve Bank of India examination for the post of Officers ('A' grade) held on January 6, 1990.

We are grateful to Mr Bhojraj Singh (Crompton, Madras) for sending a copy of the question paper to us.

The family—parents and children—is rightly regarded by social scientists as the simplest and earliest link in the evolution of the State. The control exercised by a father over the members of his family is supposed to represent the origin of human government. Essentially, the State itself is an enlargement of the family. The unit indeed has been the family. As time passed, the families came together to form a society. The role of society received greater importance even as the State grew in size and expanded its functions to cover almost every aspect of daily life of the individual and activity of the family.

Traditionally, the family has played, and still plays, a crucial role in an individual's life; the happiness and welfare of the individual depends generally on the condition, management and reputation of the family. The importance of the family, patriarchal or matriarchal, has been recognised throughout the centuries. The progress of civilisation was reflected by the role of the individual as well as that of the family. Whenever a family lives in subjugation under foreign rule or in a free sovereign State does not matter much for the family, though the material well-being, the liberties and rights its members enjoy certainly depend upon the type of polity, feudalistic, aristocratic, authoritarian, dictatorial or democratic.

The 20th century witnessed dramatic changes in the role of the individual and hence affected the importance of the family. The funda-

mental rights of the individual gained increasing recognition as the years passed and as scores of countries shook off the shackles of serfdom. The social and economic conditions moulded the role of the family. It was a continuous, almost imperceptible process. The development was taken as a matter of course, like most other evolutionary processes.

The 20th century is nearing its close; we are currently passing through its last decade. Everyone is familiar with the problems a family currently faces, the challenges which both young and old members of the family create, the nature and complexities of the bonds that keep the members together and prevent the social unit from getting snapped. There are the inevitable age and generation gaps which result in conflicting approaches to life, the soft angles on one side and the sharp ones on the other, resulting in occasional clashes of personality. The intensity of these clashes depends naturally on the degree of tolerance and understanding among the generations.

People have rightly started wondering what life in the 21st century would be like. Certain aspects of life in the decades to come are not difficult to guess: greater mechanisation, especially the widespread use of the computer, including of course the personal computers (PCs) which are already popular, faster pace of activity, radical transformation of economic activity, more rapid political progress resulting from widespread education, greater enlightenment which is a welcome sequel to the Age of Information, the earnestly sponsored expansion of the mass media, the fabulous consumerism (thanks to the countless advertisements on television which make a great, sometimes indelible impression on our minds), the revolt of youth against age, the growing sense of independence and the

unchecked break-up of the joint family.

While envisaging a framework for the next century we have, therefore, to take into account the fast increasing consumerism and consumer culture. The new culture, which has already gripped the educated classes especially those which are economically well off, is represented by the craze to be "modern" in the Western sense—the sophisticated type of comforts and conveniences, with the latest methods of entertainment (the video, the two-in-ones of various shapes and sizes, American or Japanese, the latest television sets), the radio transistors are now regarded as obsolete and suitable only for the masses, notably labourers, "pan wallas", cobblers and the like of them.

The race for purchasing the latest gadgets that have become popular in Europe and the U.S.A. is truly on. It will become even more intense with the modern technology progressing at a fantastic speed. There is every possibility of India becoming a nation of "consuming marions" in the coming decades. The social and other forces behind the consumer culture have a powerful thrust at their back, they would almost certainly become irresistible. Some people, belonging to the Gandhian school of thought and being votaries of the creed of simple living and high thinking, might try to check the trends towards modernism. But they are in such a small minority that their efforts to persuade their countrymen to adopt the old style of living and making austerity their norm rather than consumerism, would not make much headway. Sailing against the current waves and trends requires courage and perseverance which are not characteristic of the modern age—not even in the land of Gandhi and Nehru. Although the vast majority of the people in India are still illi-

terate despite all the ambitious literacy missions, and education campaigns, modern fashions are catching on. These are bound to become a part of life of the average citizen. It is difficult to forecast with certainty the percentage of people who would become unflinching votaries of modernism, there need be no doubt that families which continue to live in the traditional style characteristic of most regions in India at present, would be regarded as backward, out of tune with the times and hence not worthy of becoming part of "good" society.

The problems of modernisation are naturally more complex in a poor country like India. But it is not poverty and the lack of requisite resources that would be the main hurdle, though it is bound to be a handicap. Indian society, by and large, is distinctly conservative and tradition-bound, especially in the vast countryside where about three-fourths of the population lives. The farmers and other sections of rural society have a firm belief in fatalism; things will be as God wills. Whatever He wills will happen, come what may. The theory of Karma (fate) still grips the minds of the teeming millions.

Jawaharlal Nehru and his grandson Rajiv Gandhi wanted India to become modern and to march with the times. The Age of Science has dawned, and we were warned that we must not miss it, as we missed the Industrial Revolution which transformed the Western world beyond recognition while leaving the Third World more or less where it was. Certain procedures and practices enforced by priests and panches have virtually choked the nation and prevented progress. Indeed there are many institutions and practices than even the plethora of laws have not been able to demolish. There is social stagnation at many places. No wonder things change very slowly, if at all, in most parts of the country.

Visions of 21st century India as projected by people who are fed up with old soul-killing traditions in this country, are no doubt attractive. The 21st century, according to their calcu-

lations, would mark the start of a new millennium. India, we are told, would be free from hunger and poverty; commencement of a new structure would herald the onset of a vigorous democracy with a dynamic modern economy.

The advancement of technology, the visionaries have confidently said, would not leave the masses untouched because their scope and content would be comprehensive. The electronic revolution and the Age of the Computer would end drudgery in the home; there would be a knowledge and information explosion that would sweep away the cobwebs of ignorance and superstition. New management and marketing techniques would ensure instant success on the basis of highly useful data. The masters of knowhow, it is believed, will deliver us from many evils and handicaps. The centre-piece of the next century will be knowledge coupled with speed of activity.

Along with the general enlightenment of the people there will surely be all-round unhindered development of human resources. This development has been officially described as "a power keg that could either explode into a disaster or generate enough energy for the country to take off into a totally new era". Education and health, it is believed, will be the major areas in which modern methods and inventions will work wonders. The Government of India recently adopted "Health for All by the Year 2000 AD" as its slogan. Health programmes are expected to ensure elimination, or at least distinct reduction, in diseases that afflict most families. So healthier families may become the rule, ailing ones an exception.

But the cynics and the doubting Thomases are not wrong when they warn that such slogans as "Computer Lao, Gharibi Hatao" are unlikely to bring the results visualised by the modern thinkers. True, concern over the intense poverty is increasing and every government talks about alleviation of poverty and other suffering, but the net effect is hardly creditable to the agencies that execute

these programmes.

Family life in the 21st century will probably mean more independent living by newly married couples, self-supporting and other well-employed members, further break-up of the joint family system, less of discipline in the family as a result of more blatant defiance of elders by youngsters, decreasing respect for and care of aged parents, greater selfishness among the new generation and more splits among families as a result of the social and economic pressures.

As for development of character and promotion of happiness, the likelihood is that the much-hoped-for high character would still be missing. Even now millions of people are showing, through their day-to-day actions, the lack of character and integrity. Modernism, materialism and the machine age are unlikely to make members of families more honest, more straightforward, more helpful and more truthful. Rather, there would probably be more hypocrisy and duplicity even in the family.

The number of people who have betrayed family traditions and high principles is even now legion. They are likely to multiply. Cynics have already pointed out that expectations of happier families because of modern conveniences and comforts, are likely to materialise. Happiness in families depends on factors that are not in abundance in today's India, and there is no indication that they will become common in the decades to come. The injustices, the inequities and the family feuds are not likely to become things of the past.

Life in the next century would be hectic; after all, fast pace is an unmistakable feature of modern life everywhere. Family life is unlikely to be exemplary and eagerly looked forward to. In fact, there might be good reason for leaders of society to shake their heads in dismay at the endless discords and squabbles, with each member trying to grab the lion's share of the property and other belongings. This assessment might seem to some people as unduly pessimistic, but the present indications do point to a dismal state of affairs, not to happier times.

Urbanization: Opportunities & Challenges

Glitter and glamour; dizzy-dazzle of urban life, though nerve-breaking and breath-taking, yet the gravitational pull is the other way round—towards towns, cities and metropolis. From nearly 25 million urbanites in 1947 to 350 million in 2001, is a zooming jump, the parallel of which may be hard to find in the annals of history and civilization. But that is where we are—the extra-ordinary exodus from rural to urban areas in search of employment, better education and health facilities and above all the magic of 'mammon' and the fascination of fast life—these are the charms and attractions which have changed the scenario of Indian life and psyche beyond recognition and redemption and that too in a short span of four decades. The stories of success—from rags to riches; from nothing to everything, are the self-speaking facts and reality of many a young man who has come to identify himself with the hopes and aspirations of Indian urban life and its multi-faceted milieu.

India's premier institutions, whether of Arts and Culture; Science and Technology; Public Health and Medical Research—in fact all forums that cater to the needs of body and mind, high and low, young and old, have been located and promoted in the cities. Therefore, there is no wonder that even those who are born and brought up in the villages, look forward to the cities in search of jobs and better living conditions. There is no denying the fact that the openings and opportunities are in plenty in urban areas as compared to near saturation and stagnation in the countryside. In the prevailing context, ambition is the hall-mark of the youth and success-syndrome is their governing passion and pursuit. Migration to cities, which was just a trickle in the early years of Indepen-

dence, kept gathering momentum and now it has assumed the velocity of a flood. This one-way traffic towards cities, big and small, is causing tremendous pressure on the already inadequate essential services, like housing, public health, transport, education etc.

For years now, our cities have witnessed the steady inflow of millions of young people with romantic dreams but shaky foundations for a successful city life. They form an unstable mass of badly educated, rudderless youngsters who have discarded an old value system and have no grounding for adjustment into the values of a city. They are often hungry, ill, lone and resentful. The population in the cities went up by 47 per cent between 1947 and 1981 while the total population increased by just 25 per cent. The lower class migrants are mostly absorbed in building or construction work and in the labour force but the semi-literates form an unstable, excitable mass, to be used by anti-social hood-lums for sinister and sadistic designs and diabolic actions of arson and looting. A recent study and analysis has shown that the basic reason for communal tension in our habitat is the suicidal rate at which our population has increased making us woefully short of land, housing and means of livelihood; the terrible congestion in our cities, the "jhopadpattis" and the thousands who sleep cheek-by-jowl on pavements.

Cities are nothing new; the problems of cities are nothing new; but an urban civilization is very new indeed, and the problems of an urban civilization are without precedent in our long history. New neurosis caused by unbearable noise pollution, besides the pollution produced by smoke and dust, have come into being due to factors beyond our control and

capacity. Cities of India have become dumps of dirt and filth with ever-increasing slums; housing, energy, health services, sanitation, water shortage and sewage deficiencies, always staring us in the face. Pure air is becoming a rare gift that one reads about or dreams about, and lung diseases have come to be regarded as minor ailments as compared to the ever-increasing threats of other deadly diseases.

The paradoxes of city life are as painful and poignant as the contradictions between opportunities and challenges. Although Delhi and New Delhi are different in sight, hearing and smell yet both take pride in their newly acquired skyscrapers, stadia, swimming pools, five-star hotels and fly-overs but who can over-look the reality of the tale of these twin-cities—the city of the rich and the city of the poor. Bombay, the financial capital of India, enjoys the unique distinction of having 40 per cent of its population living in slums. Calcutta, the cultural centre, currently celebrating its 300th anniversary, has been described in very unsavoury terms, both by Indian and foreign dignitaries. Examples of such paradoxes can be multiplied to any extent because almost all the Indian cities pointedly portray the growing gulf between rural India and urban India; between have-nots and haves; and between folk-culture and pop-culture. Thomas Jefferson was only the first of a long list of prominent American critics of the city. Emerson, Thoreau, Melville and John Dewey, all found the American city distasteful. And about India, the popular Hindi poet Devraj 'Dinesh' depicted the hollowness of artificial city life and compared it to a nicely bound book the inside of which held nothing but blank pages. 'Dinesh' likened the life in a city to a puppet that could laugh and cry at the same time.

Democracy Triumphs Over Communism

Dramatic Developments in Europe

A mighty spasm in the closing months of 1989 stunned almost the entire world. Liberal winds smashed Communist regimes in one country after another in East Europe. From Warsaw to Prague, Budapest to Berlin, "Red" dictators had to retreat. Except in Romania, where Nicolae Ceausescu, the arrogant dictator, ordered a ruthless massacre, the historic upsurge in the East Bloc has been without bloodshed. It has been an amazing phenomenon. Why do the people in that region now wish to bury Communism?

This feature is an in-depth analysis of the revolution that has cracked a seemingly invincible monolith and transformed the face of Europe in a few weeks. The revival of nationalist and ethnic rivalries may ultimately result in a re-drawing of the map of Europe.

I. Origin of the Tide

Oddly enough, it is Mr Mikhail Gorbachov's greatly publicised themes of Perestroika and Glasnost that are basically responsible for the liberal and democratic winds that have swept the East Bloc and demolished the Soviet Union's Communist strongholds. It was not his intention to break the Soviet empire; he merely wanted to restructure the Soviet Union's economy (Perestroika) and introduce openness (Glasnost) and thus end the strangulation of the individual that had caused much discontentment. For many months he symbolised the people's hopes.

Not even in his wildest dreams did he visualise that the Berlin Wall would crumble in a few months and that there would be non-Communist governments in most of the East Bloc

by the end of 1989. Mr Gorbachov promised a new deal for his people; he deplored the glaring inequalities and the suppression of the people's voice. That proved to be enough to set the tinder ablaze. When liberal winds start blowing, it is difficult to say where they will stop and which institutions they will sweep away. The challenges which Mr Gorbachov is currently facing are evidence of this danger. He was hailed as a saviour when he took office in the spring of 1985. But to contend that he commands the same popularity as he did when he assumed power would be wrong. In recent months there have been indications that his Perestroika reforms are going out of control.

Moreover, ethnic and separatist violence have erupted on a disconcerting scale. Mr Gorbachov is, however, confident that the measures approved by the Soviet Parliament at its recent session would significantly speed up the process of restructuring. The economy, it is claimed, is getting rid of excessive centralisation. The guarantees of human rights in the Soviet Union have been strengthened; the radical economic reforms have been accelerated. The reform of Soviet society is proceeding apace.

The Estonian Parliament voted to assert its rights to self-determination, but the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet declared the resolution illegal.

The dramatic changes in the East Bloc touched even those countries most resistant to change and pushed others to the brink of Western-style democracy. The changes in East Germany were preceded by slower but no less significant alterations in other East Bloc countries, most notably in Poland and Hungary, which led the rest in establishing democratic pluralism.

However, the changes in Eastern Europe would never have been possible without the reform crusade in the Soviet Union launched by President Gorbachov, who declared that each country must find its own road to socialism. The change in Soviet policy had a multiplying spill-over effect on East European nations. Experts believe that the main reason why Moscow is tolerating dissent in East Europe and adopting a hands off attitude is his internal multi-faceted trouble.

The Soviet empire, established at the end of World War II with the East Bloc satellites firmly in Moscow's grip, has now disintegrated. One country after another has sought alternatives to the centrally planned and single-party Communist system.

II. Sequence of Events

A development that turned out to be a trend setter occurred in Poland on August 24, 1989, when a Solidarity journalist, Tadeusz Mazowiecki, won overwhelming support to become the East Bloc's first non-Communist Prime Minister, thus ending 45 years of Communist control of Poland's Government. The 378-4 vote in Parliament showed the way the wind was blowing. He declared that the mechanism of normal political life had to be restored; the principle of struggle must be replaced with the principle of partnership. "We will not pass from a totalitarian system to a democratic one in any other way." The Soviet Union received assurances from Poland of continued all-round cooperation and membership of the Warsaw Pact.

Hungary: Communism received a jolt on October 8, 1989, when Hungary, which had been a strong critic of the Soviet Union's domination over the Eastern Bloc, spurned

hard-line Communism and adopted socialism as its creed. The ruling party openly declared that the country stands pledged to the Western type of democracy.

With the unilateral voting out of the Communist Party, an era ended and a new one started in Hungary. The decision also marked the termination of the one-party State—a regime which, in Communist parlance generally means that the party is everything, the individual and his basic rights are nothing. In October, 1989, Hungary's parliament rewrote the Constitution to eliminate all references to the role of the Communist Party and set the stage for the first free multi-party election since 1948.

The decision of the Hungarian Communist Party to dissolve itself was without precedent—it was the first case of an extreme leftist party turning itself peacefully into a socialist democratic entity. Wide-ranging radical reforms were assured by the new leaders. The President of Hungary now is Mr Nyers. He was once dropped by James Kadar from the top leaders group. Kadar was the country's supreme head for 22 years.

Upsurge in East Germany: In September-October there were violent anti-Government disturbances in East Germany; these were the biggest protests against strict Communist rule in the country during the past 36 years. Big crowds chanted: "Freedom, Freedom" and appealed to Mr Gorbachov (who was then on a visit to the country) to help them get freedom. Thousands of East Germans crossed over to West Germany and other adjacent States to escape the Communist grip.

Mr Erich Honecker, the then East German leader, speaking on October 9, cautioned that any attempt to undermine Communism in his country would fail. He was removed as the party head on October 18 and was replaced by Mr Egon Krenz. Rapid developments have taken place since then. The exodus assumed massive dimensions. The Berlin Wall has crumbled. Almost from the day the Wall was built in 1961 to check the migration of

people to West Germany, there has been a significant movement of people from the Eastern part to escape the Communist system. The exodus gathered momentum in 1989 during which a million people crossed over to West Germany where they were granted citizenship.

The East German Government has pretended for years that capitalism is "a decaying system and that East Germany is building on the moral high ground". Since the German Democratic Republic (GDR), as East Germany is officially called, was established in 1949, many of its citizens have fled to the West for a variety of reasons. But the current migration, which an East German author recently called "a phenomenon that threatens to destroy the German Democratic Republic" is something new.

Bonn estimated that 90,000 legal immigrants from East Germany crossed over by the end of last year. Since the wall was built, 672,000 East Germans have settled in West Germany. East Germany knocked down parts of the wall to create new border crossings. The "Iron Curtain", of which the wall was an indication, divided East and West.

Czechoslovakia goes democratic: Following the dizzy developments in Hungary and East Germany, Czechoslovakia (which perhaps had the strongest democratic traditions of any Soviet bloc country) sought more freedom and a new government. There were several pro-democracy demonstrations. A new Communist set-up replaced the discredited one. Huge rallies have been taking place in Prague in protest against the new Government which also is Communist dominated.

The coalition now in power comprises the Civic Forum, an opposition group, the Communists and other official parties. The Parliament is currently dominated by Communists. On January 5, Mr Jan Skoda was unanimously elected Chairman of the Czechoslovak Socialist Party (CSP) with the job of preparing the foremost Communist satellite for the country's first free election.

Revolution in Romania: With a suddenness that was really unbelievable, the Romanians rose in revolt against their ruthless dictator who had been in power for about 24 years and smashed all types of critics and opponents of his regime. He and his wife were tried by a court and sentenced to death and promptly executed by a squad of young rebels. The dramatic events in Romania were the bloodiest and the most violent. About 60,000 to 70,000 people were massacred under Nicolae Ceausescu's orders, but he met a tragic fate. Romania is now governed by the National Salvation Front—the country's interim leadership, headed by Mr Ion Iliescu. Romania even outlawed the Communist Party and virtually buried communism. Large crowds yelled "Down with Communism, kill the Communists". The reference was to those Communists who were still in the Government. The new leaders, backed by the people, put on trial the hated secret police.

Bulgaria was also determined to shake off Communist shackles.

Multi-party system in Lithuania: Authorities in Lithuania formally launched the Soviet Union's first multi-party system on Dec 27, registering the Baltic republic's new breakaway Communist Party and the pro-independence Democratic Party. The Lithuanian Communists thus split their ranks. The split, applauded enthusiastically by most Lithuanians, was overwhelmingly approved by the republic's Communists and others as part of the moves to achieve a sovereign Lithuania.

Mr Gorbachov warned against secessionism and attacked the split, saying it threatened the essence of his Perestroika reforms. The Democratic Party stands for Lithuania's secession from the Soviet Union. The Social Democratic Party also favours independence and has formulated policies on the pattern of its counterparts in Sweden and West Germany.

Latvia follows suit: On December 28, Latvia became the second Soviet republic to abolish the Communist Party's constitutionally guaranteed supremacy. The Latvian parliament voted 220-50 to follow

the example of Lithuania and much of Eastern Europe, eliminating from its constitution a section that makes the Communist Party the "leading and guiding force of Soviet society". Lithuania has legalized alternative political parties, and Latvia has followed that example.

III. Soviet Reactions

In spite of being the leader of the Communist bloc, the Soviet Union expressed its support to Romania's democratic groups which overthrew and swiftly executed Nicolae Ceausescu. The Soviet public had watched with revulsion the slaughter inflicted by Ceausescu upon the people of Romania. The Communist rule was imposed on Romania by the force of Soviet arms. But for the last 30 years the Romanian leadership was building its own version of an inferno, in defiance of Moscow. Mr Gorbachov's handling of the Romanian issue was masterly. He gave moral encouragement to the uprising of the people. The bloodbath there has reinforced fears among the Russians that the Stalinists would stop at nothing. The Romanian developments have come at a critical time for the Soviet Union. The Romanian upsurge is also the culmination of a process in East Europe which has other serious political implications. The intelligentsia is arguing that Soviet democratisation and Glasnost has been surpassed in East European countries and now it is the thinking in Moscow which is lagging behind.

Mr Gorbachov's insistence that for the time being Article 6 of the Constitution, which ensures the leading role for the Soviet Communist Party, should not be changed, has become a source of frustration for many. It provides ammunition for criticism of the present structure and inadequacies of the democratisation process so far. Sooner or later, this clause will have to go, leading to the introduction of a virtual multi-party system, which would be a momentous change.

In a New Year message Mr Gorbachov assured Eastern Europe of Soviet "solidarity". The past year became a year of the ending of the

Cold War. The 1990s bid fair to become "the most fruitful period in the history of civilisation", he said. The necessity to combine socialism with democracy has been vigorously reaffirmed.

Albania Stays Socialist: While several Communist regimes have crumbled in a span of a few weeks, falling like dominoes, one country has remained unaffected by the storm raging all round it—Albania, Europe's last hard-line Communist State. Its leader, Mr Ramiz Alia, vowed to stay its Socialist course and resist the upheaval that has toppled Communist governments elsewhere. Albania, located between Greece and Yugoslavia on the Adriatic sea, is one of the most isolated countries in the world.

IV. China Upset Over Revisionism

Chinese Prime Minister Li Peng has voiced concern over the trends which threaten to diminish Beijing's past gains in foreign policy. As it set about normalising State and party relations with the Soviet Union in the last few years, China first normalised with the Eastern European Communist nations. Now it finds that those States are making the very compromises which the Chinese Communist Party refused to make when faced with massive discontent in the weeks prior to the Beijing massacre on June 4, 1989.

"As a socialist country, China is of course deeply concerned about events in some East European countries", Mr Li said. The tide of reform sweeping through Eastern Europe has been debated in the upper levels of the Chinese party for many weeks. Ironically, as before the Sino-Soviet split, after Sino-Soviet normalisation the Chinese are deeply distressed by the reality of "revisionism".

Mr Li naturally made the point that "each country should decide for itself how to proceed along the socialist path". He also clearly indicated China's belief that perfecting socialism was the only way to do so. Chinese officials cannot happily accept the appearance of non-Communist regimes in Poland or

Hungary as their respective Communist parties either relinquish power or dissolve themselves.

The principle of the supremacy of the Communist Party has been to the fore as the Chinese authorities have been continuing the crackdown on all forms of dissent. Equally disturbing to the Chinese leaders was the fall of their friend, the East German leader, Mr Erich Honecker, who earlier approved the steps taken to put down the Tiananmen demonstration. Beijing seemed keen to further enhance its ties with all socialist nations. But it is ideologically prevented from doing so, and feels an increased degree of isolation from the East as well as the West.

Threat to Peace: The Chinese Premier expressed concern that the ongoing radical reforms in Eastern Europe might go against peace and stability in Europe by destroying the balance of power there. Mr Li added, however, that the developments have become serious, even disregarding ideological considerations.

Mr Li also said China's situation would have turned out much worse than Eastern Europe at present if the Chinese authorities had not taken "resolute measures" by militarily cracking down on pro-democracy demonstrators at Tiananmen Square. Only the Communist Party was capable of unifying China, he asserted.

China's Communist Party chief Jiang Zemin indicated on December 28 that China would not abandon socialism. The Chinese respect the historic choices made by the people of other countries and will never interfere in their affairs. "We also oppose other countries interfering in our internal affairs."

The Chinese leadership has however been alarmed by events in Eastern Europe, particularly the quick collapse of Romanian President Nicolae Ceausescu—one of its staunchest allies. It has privately blamed Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachov for the stunning events in Eastern Europe which it has referred to as a subversion of socialism.

"Ripples" in France: The popular

uprising in Romania, which has brought post-war Europe's bloodiest dictatorship to its knees, has also shaken the French Communist Party which has, throughout the seventies and the eighties and despite Mr Gorbachov and his Perestroika, remained a little island of hardline Marxist-Leninist ideology. The French Communists denounced the prolonged tolerance of the Communist regimes in Eastern Europe. "Romania's agony has helped bury a certain concept of Communism. We must recognise that we are to a certain degree responsible, through our complicity and our cautious tactics, for the crimes committed in the name of Communism. Let us now have the courage to admit it." The French Communist Party remains an anachronism in Europe.

V. Economic Factors

While the realisation that politically they are at a serious disadvantage as compared to the people of the Western democracies undoubtedly played a part in bringing about the revolution, the economic aspect of the developments has also to be taken into account. In almost every country of the East bloc there was some sort of economic crisis (East Germany is a notable exception). There have been acute shortages of essential supplies.

To begin with the Soviet Union, Mr Gorbachov's Perestroika has brought quick improvements in the political arena (intellectual pursuits, freedom of the Press and literature and art), but the programme has made the economic condition of countless people worse than it was before his programme of liberalisation was launched. Soviet economy was described by many Westerners as being on the verge of collapse. Economy of many of the Soviet satellites in the East Bloc had also stagnated. Economic change did not match political change. Oddly enough, the pragmatist Gorbachov did not ensure that the people would have adequate supplies of necessities. There was strict, and hence annoying, rationing. The runaway inflation and food shortages were particularly troublesome; in many areas there

was virtual panic.

What was true of the Soviet Union, where both the disillusionment and the consequent protests against the Communist system began, was also true of the East European States. The material benefits were missing; the political successes were hardly enough. Actually, for about 70 years the Communist Party fought an unequal war against religion. The latest manifestation of the liberalisation of outlook in Moscow has covered the church also.

Corruption and extravagance: A notable aspect of the overthrow of several Communist dictators was their self-aggrandisement and luxurious life-style reminiscent of millionaires of the capitalist countries. In fact, the power-obsessed rulers formed a class apart; they collected large sums of money, acquired palatial mansions and their living standard presented a striking contrast with that of the masses. President Marcos and his wife Imelda of the Philippines were classic examples. There are many Marcoses in various parts of the world. The insatiable greed for villas and luxury cars, their obsession with pelf and power, had in fact become scandalous.

In East Germany, Erich Honecker and most other members of the Politburo had, for their exclusive enjoyment, huge hunting estates run at State expense. Their villas had become symbols of regal splendour. A high official was about to be arrested in the wake of official revelations by the new regime of shady deals involving millions of dollars in foreign exchange and arms shipments. But he fled the country. President Ceausescu of Romania also lived in luxury while he headed an oppressive, cruel regime. And all this in a Communist State where simplicity and austerity were supposed to be the hallmarks of the set-up!

In China, too, one of the targets against which the students' movement was directed was the rampant corruption and nepotism among the highest Communist officials. The most visible form of abuse of power for personal gain in that country has

been the cornering of resources for imported luxury goods by relatives of the top leaders.

Alienation led to Collapse: Mr E.M.S. Namboodiripad, CPM General Secretary, expressed the view that the collapse of the Communist governments was the result of the party leadership's alienation from the people. Stalin and Mao had also erred in distancing themselves from the people. This alienation put the leaders in ivory towers, resulting in corruption, vulgarity and weakening of the Communist principles.

Indian Communists too are evaluating the changes. Even without Perestroika and Glasnost, they had pursued this process of revaluation. The CPM had for the past two decades differences with both the Soviet Union and China on ideological issues.

VI. Prospects of one Germany

U.S. Secretary of State James A. Baker was candid enough to admit that the historic events in East Germany, climaxed by the virtual destruction of the Berlin Wall, came as "a bolt from the blue".

East Germany is bracing for a series of reforms—free elections, a free press, independent trade unions, freedom of association and assembly, economic changes and parliamentary control over the armed forces. The crown jewel of the Soviet empire is about to outdo its mentor. The Kaisers and Hitlers wrote the old chapters. The people have written this new one.

As Washington and other world capitals are recovering from the shock waves of change and upheaval in East Germany and in many other Warsaw Pact countries, the question of German unification has suddenly come to the fore. What has for long been regarded as a utopian dream has come within the realm of realisation.

In Washington, U.S. officials prefer to talk of German reconciliation rather than German unification. The West German Chancellor, Mr Helmut Kohl, said in an emotional speech in

West Berlin: "We are and will remain one nation and we belong together. Step by step we must find the way to our own future." The prospect of an eventual German unification has raised concerns in many European countries, especially Britain and France.

The question of reunification poses a dilemma to the United States, the Soviet Union and many European countries. Soviet officials have already made it clear they would not favour unification of Germany. Mr Kohl himself has indicated that West Germany would not loosen its ties with NATO and the West as the price of reunification.

The German question has long haunted Europe. With Poland and Hungary going the liberal democratic way, the East Bloc nations could not remain unaffected, although the situation of the German Democratic Republic is much more intricate. Liberalisation there will lead sooner or later to the reunification of Germany. The Soviet Union has nothing against the reunification of Germany; rather, it is the Western allies who will fear the resurrection of a powerful German nation in their midst. The German Democratic Republic is backward, compared to the German Federal Republic in some areas; there are others in which the GDR is ahead. Undoubtedly, free elections will also be held in the GDR in the not-too-distant future, and a multi-party government will be installed.

Whatever shape a new Europe takes, the cornerstone will be Germany. In many ways, the divided nation is moving closer together, but reunification remains an uncertainty. A united Germany would grow from a reasonably sized European Community partner to a colossus of 80 million inhabitants with Gross National Product of \$ 1.4 trillion, approaching that of the Soviet Union.

VII. Impact on Third World

The vast and sprawling Third World comprises countries having governments of various complexions and political beliefs and ideologies. There are pro-West, especially pro-American, uncom-

mitted non-aligned countries, and also a few are pro-Communist entities, or at any rate they subscribe to leftist beliefs. Some countries profess to be socialist, and some others seek development assistance from both the capitalist nations (USA, West Germany and Japan) and the leftists.

In view of the collapse of Communism in East Europe, the Socialist countries may face ideological and political crises. Opportunism is a practice that yields handsome dividends. So some of the conservative and capitalist countries are casting eyes on the vulnerable nations of the Third World, especially of Africa and the Far East. The ruling groups in these countries are likely to be wooed systematically by the industrialised Western countries.

The Soviet Union has undeniably modified its policy towards the Third World. Realising the policy errors of past years and as part of the error-rectification drive, it has withdrawn from Afghanistan (it suffered humiliation there); it has persuaded its protegee Cuba to quit southern Africa. Vietnam has abandoned its expansionism in Kampuchea. Those Arab countries which have been securing arms assistance from the Soviet Union have been informed that since no military solution is now possible for their regional conflicts, they might as well settle their disputes themselves. But their defence expenditures continue to increase. They still place orders for the latest weapons with the Big Powers. Mr Gorbachov now counsels moderation to Communist and pro-Communist regimes.

VIII. The Future

While no specific political development can be forecast with certainty because of the many imponderables, some trends can be foreseen.

One: Marxism is almost dead. It is very unlikely that orthodox Communist leaders will be able to propagate their cause and bring small undeveloped countries in Asia, Africa and Latin America into their net. Communism has been discredited because of its disregard for human rights and dignity of the individual.

Two: Both the giant Powers have

realised that proxy wars do not pay. Such wars impose heavy burdens on the power acting behind the scenes, furtively pulling wires and treating the Third World dictators as puppets at their beck and call.

Three: Because of the facilities which Communism assures to the masses, such as housing, education and the right to work, some form of this ideology, even if attenuated and softened, may yet survive the recent upheavals. Prices, inflation and unemployment are still common features of the capitalist world and of modern democracies.

Four: Considerations of security may prompt the Soviet Union to discourage the trends for reunification of the two Germans. But the people of the two halves are keen on demolishing the barriers and establishing one compact political entity that would be economically prosperous and militarily a force to be reckoned with.

Five: What the people are really interested in is not ideology but material comforts, necessities and conveniences. Since democracy provides an attractive corrective, they have opted for it.

Six: There is no guarantee that the interim arrangements made in countries of the East Bloc which have discarded Communism would work smoothly. It is also not certain whether the new leaders would function in a democratic manner and not concentrate all power in their own hands. Free elections have been promised in most of these countries in a month or two, but experience shows that the election schedules are often deferred by the rulers. Romania has already done so.

Seven: The masses demanded democracy without understanding its implications and risks. They may aspire for the Western style of living but often the price of such life-style is heavy. Democracy is not a ripe plum that can be plucked and made to fall in one's lap at will.

Eight: The rise in old nationalist and ethnic rivalries, together with the exit of Communist regimes, could mean a redrawing of Europe's map.

Crucial Battle for the States

The imminent elections to eight State Assemblies and a Union Territory will determine to a great extent the shape of things to come in the political arena. The results will indicate the prospects of the Congress (I) and also of the National Front Government. The numerous malpractices that marred the Lok Sabha poll certainly need to be avoided to ensure a fair and free verdict.

The elections to the Lok Sabha held last November were a landmark in India's political history since they resulted in a significant switch in the power structure at the top. The second round of electoral contests is scheduled to be held after a few days. Because of the current fluid situation, with a minority government in power and the country's largest party forming the opposition, the elections to eight State Assemblies (Himachal Pradesh, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Orissa, Rajasthan, Bihar, Arunachal Pradesh and Maharashtra) and the Pondicherry Union Territory are bound to be crucial. They will help determine the shape of politics as well as the role of party leaders in the next decade. Indeed the outcome will have a more direct and far-reaching impact than previous Assembly elections.

Naturally, the various political parties are preparing earnestly for this battle of the ballot. The contests will be keen and tough; complacency on the part of any party would be suicidal for it. As things are, spectacular triumphs are highly unlikely in any region. But the Congress, which still has ample resources and is fully aware that its future is at stake, confidently hopes for a victory, even if less impressive than in the 1985 poll in Maharashtra. The non-Congress groups in that State, notably the BJP and the Shiv Sena, have already agreed on seat sharing so as to conform, as far as possible, to the

practice of one-to-one straight contests. This will simplify the battle and heighten the prospects of victory against the party well-entrenched in its traditional stronghold.

The importance of the Assembly poll is apparent from the fact that in 1967, about 23 years ago, the Congress suffered defeats in several States. This setback accounted for the emergence, a decade later, of the Janata Party which assumed power at the Centre, ousting Mrs Gandhi's giant organisation. The fact that the Janata Government had a short tenure and fared poorly because of internal squabbles and the endless personal ambitions of some top leaders is another matter.

1985 Assembly poll results: It would be instructive to recall the party position in the State Assemblies just dissolved (they were constituted after the 1985 elections):

Andhra Pradesh: Total seats 294, Telegu Desam 202, Congress (I) 49, BJP 8, Janata 2, CPI 11, CPM 11, MIM 3, Independents 5.

Bihar: Total 324, Cong (I) 192, Janata 11, DMKP 41, BJP 1, CPI 12, JMM 1, Cong (S) 1, Independents 21.

Gujarat: Total 182, Cong (I) 149, BJP 11, Janata 14, others 8.

Himachal Pradesh: Total 68, Cong (I) 55, BJP 7, DMKP 1, others 2.

Karnataka: Total 224, Janata 139, Cong (I) 55, BJP 7, DMKP 1, others 2.

Madhya Pradesh: Total 320, Cong (I) 250, BJP 58, Janata 5, Cong (S) 1, Independents 6.

Maharashtra: Total 288, Cong (I) 162, Cong (S) 56, Janata 20, PWP 12, BJP 16, CPI 2, CPM 2, Independents 19.

Orissa: Total 147, Cong (I) 137, BJP 1, CPI 1, Independent 1, others 5.

Rajasthan: Total 200, Cong (I) 113, BJP 36, DMKP 27, Janata 10, CPM 1, Independents 9.

Sikkim: Total 32, SSP 29, Cong (I) 1, Independents 2.

U.P.: Total 425, Cong (I) 266, BJP 16, DMKP 85, INC-J 4, CPI 6, CPM 2, Independents and others 24.

Pondicherry: Total 30, Cong (I) 15, AIADMK 6, DMK 5, Janata 2, Independents 2.

Manipur: Cong (I) 34, Independents 15, Janata 4, People's Party 3, CPI 1.

Of these States, U.P., Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh and Goa opted for simultaneous polls with the Lok Sabha last November. The Cong (I) was routed in U.P. yielding the top place to Janata Dal, but it scored a notable triumph in Andhra Pradesh where Mr N.T. Rama Rao's Telegu Desam Party was reduced to a narrow minority. In Karnataka also, the Congress (I) emerged victorious, quashed the other parties, and formed the Government. In Goa no party secured a majority, both the principal contestants securing 15 seats each. But the Congress (I) won two remaining seats later and formed the ministry.

March 1987 polls: Three States—J & K, West Bengal and Kerala—went to the polls in March, 1987. The National Conference (F), in alliance with the Cong (I), registered a significant victory in J & K. The results were: Total seats 76, NC(F) 37, Cong (I) 25, BJP 2, M.U.F. 4, Independents 4.

West Bengal: Total 294, Left Marxist Front 197, Cong (I) 34, Muslim League 1.

Kerala: Total 140, Left Democratic Front 75, United Democratic Front 61, others 2.

Haryana: The Cong (I) suffered a debacle in Haryana which went to the polls in June, 1987. Lok Dal (Bahuguna) and its electoral ally BJP made a virtually clean sweep, the former with 59 and the latter with 15—in the 90-member Assembly. The Cong (I) got a paltry 5, CPI and CPM each,

independents 6.

Thus elections to the State Assemblies of I & K, Haryana and West Bengal are due in 1992. Of course premature dissolution of any Assembly will result in mid-term polls, earlier than the due date.

If the National Front and the BJP do well in the polls (the BJP is confident of securing a majority in Himachal Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh where its candidates fared very well in the Lok Sabha elections), and if the Janata Dal captures a large number of seats in Bihar and Orissa, the position of the National Front and Prime Minister V.P. Singh, will be greatly strengthened. The setback to the Congress (I) and Mr Rajiv Gandhi in these States would mean much disgrace and a long period in the wilderness.

Trends and patterns: The trend in the 1989 elections clearly showed the voters' preferences; they wanted a change from the existing regimes because they had found them ineffective and inefficient. It was the disappointment with performance that was reflected in the voting. Being a good judge of party performance, the electorate rejected the Congress (I) in the North and the non-Congress parties in the South. Party strongholds were virtually shattered. The Congress (I) fared as poorly in U.P., which was for decades its fortress, as the Telegu Desam did in Andhra Pradesh where ouster of Mr N.T. Rama Rao in a humiliating manner was unimaginable only a few months earlier.

If the same trend continues during the Assembly polls, the ruling parties in these eight States and in Pondicherry would find it an uphill task to retain power. Besides, if the communal (especially the Hindu card) also plays an important part in determining the voters' choice, the Assembly poll results would not be different from those of the Lok Sabha. While it is true that in past years the considerations that weighed with the voters during local elections were different from those which determined the pattern in the Lok Sabha, this may not be so every time.

The Ram Temple Shilanayas and Babri Masjid issue played a crucial

role in the Hindu majority areas (U.P. and Madhya Pradesh) last November. It will probably play a vital role in Delhi also when the Union Capital elects an Assembly. If, however, the trends are reversed and the Cong (I) wins in many of the States, the resultant jolt to the non-Congress parties might lead in due course to a downfall of the National Front Government at the Centre.

Judging by the recent developments, the BJP will most probably do well in the coming polls. It can win a majority, or at any rate secure a large number of seats, in Gujarat and Rajasthan (besides Himachal Pradesh). It would thus be able to confirm its role as an important, even crucial "third force" and hold the balance wherever the other parties secure a large share of seats but not enough to constitute a majority.

In the Lok Sabha poll in November the BJP won 13 Lok Sabha seats in Rajasthan and 12 in Gujarat against the Janata Dal's 11 in each of these two States. If the verdict is not clear and no party secures a majority in many of the States, coalition governments would emerge after tough bargaining and possible horse-trading. The ground realities have prevented the Election Commission from holding polls in Punjab and Assam. This is just as well.

Much will depend on whether the non-Congress parties are able to avoid multiple, triangular or quadrilateral contests. In the Lok Sabha polls there was a record number of independents. In case independents are again in the field in large numbers and if straight contests are not assured for the majority of seats, the resultant split in the votes would suit the Congress (I). This does not apply to Bihar and Orissa where the two main contenders are the Congress (I) and the Janata Dal.

Close observers of the electoral scene hold the view that probably the Cong (I) will do better in the Assembly polls than it did in the Lok Sabha elections. Past experience supports this forecast. Whenever the elections are held separately for the Assemblies, the pattern has turned out to be different from that set for

the Lok Sabha. Apart from other reasons, there is the partial disillusionment of the voters over the performance of the party or alliance in power. The commitments made in election manifestoes are difficult, sometimes virtually impossible to fulfil. Some sections of the people are already feeling restless because their hopes have been belied. The National Front has undertaken to do too many things in too short a time. How can the distortions and errors of a decade and more be rectified in a few months?

Another factor is the unhappy experience of the last poll. It has been described as the bloodiest and the most violent exercise of its kind. It had the highest number of poll malpractices, especially booth capturing and bogus voting. The film showed by Doordarshan on booth capturing was an eye-opener. Electoral intimidation and forcible deprivation of franchise reached their height. The number of polling stations in which a repoll had to be ordered by the Election Commission reached a record figure (1200).

The State governments and the various political parties in the field are all to blame for the poll malpractices. Is it not their duty to ensure a free and fair poll? Why should democracy be reduced to a farce? How is that the local authorities and the Chief Ministers of the States concerned failed to take adequate preventive measures even though they had reasons to fear trouble in these areas?

The Chief Election Commissioner's suggestions in this regard need to be followed up earnestly—strict observance of the prescribed Code of Conduct, and disqualification from elections of people whose misconduct is established. It would help if the candidate for whose benefit the rigging and booth capturing is done is disqualified for future elections. Listing the culprits, the Chief Election Commissioner specifically mentioned Bihar, U.P., Andhra Pradesh and Haryana. It is still time to do the needful. If adequate police and paramilitary forces are posted at each vulnerable booth, elections would be mostly free and fair.

Tackling Corruption Through Lok Pal

Graft and corruption prevail at all levels, high and low. Will the proposed institution of Lok Pal be able to check the menace and help ensure good, honest administration and also redress the people's numerous grievances and prevent injustices?

This Special Feature examines the issue in perspective, explains the genesis of the institution and presents certain suggestions.

Eliminating corruption and all other types of underhand transactions so as to ensure a clean administration was one of the major commitments of the various parties, except the Congress (I), which contested the Lok Sabha election last November. The Janata Dal and its leader, Mr V.P. Singh, had in fact made corruption their major poll issue, vowing to probe all scandals and punish the guilty. To establish the institution of Lok Pal a Bill was introduced in the Lok Sabha on December 29, 1989. The Lok Pal will comprise a Chairman and two members. It will be a watchdog body on whose success will depend the fulfilment of many promises of the parties currently constituting or supporting the Government at the Centre.

The Bill accords with the National Front leaders' desire to uphold the basic values of democracy and the sanctity of political institutions. The Lok Pal is expected to be a vital institution for safeguarding the rights of the citizens and democratic principles. It is also required to ensure that the various administrative authorities function with objectivity and impartiality and that the fundamental rights and freedoms of citizens are not encroached upon in the process of public administration.

Origins of Proposal: The genesis of this institution can be traced to

Sweden's Ombudsman, established under the constitution of 1809. A Swedish Ombudsman has very wide powers of supervision over all public officials, including courts and judicial officers. He is to ensure that administration is carried on in accordance with laws and statutes; that the public authorities do not exceed or abuse their powers; that justice is rendered fairly and impartially; that the rights and freedoms of the citizens are not violated. An Ombudsman is empowered to prosecute any erring public official or recommend action for his removal or dismissal for any grave negligence in the performance of duties. Even Judges of the Supreme Court can be prosecuted by the Ombudsman.

In the institution of the Ombudsman the citizens of Sweden have found an informal, impartial, cheap and speedy parliamentary agency to investigate the complaints made against all categories of public officials. Complaints can be made by simply writing a letter and there is no penalty if, after investigation, a complaint is found to be untrue or baseless. Several countries have established similar agencies—Denmark, New Zealand, Britain (Parliamentary Commissioner for Administration was set up in 1967).

Demand in India: The demand for the creation of an Ombudsman-type institution in this country has been widespread, though successive governments—in particular the Rajiv Gandhi regime—have been lukewarm in their response. The first attempt in this direction was made on May 9, 1966, when the Administrative Reforms Commission (ARC) pleaded strongly for establishing an Ombudsman-like body. The Commission stated that the successful working of the institution of Ombudsman in the Scandinavian countries had convinced it that it could be suitably adapted to Indian conditions.

Accepting the recommendations of the ARC, the Government of India introduced the Lok Pal and Ayuktas Bill in Parliament in 1968. After scrutiny by a Joint Select Committee, the Lok Sabha passed the Bill in August, 1969. The Bill lapsed with the dissolution of the Lok Sabha in December, 1970, as it was still pending with the Rajya Sabha. With substantially similar provisions, it was again introduced in the Lok Sabha in 1971, but it lapsed once again with the dissolution of the House.

The Janata Party, which came to power in 1977 and had promised, as part of its election manifesto, the creation of the institution, introduced another Lok Pal Bill in the Lok Sabha in July, 1977. The Bill was sent for detailed scrutiny to a Joint Select Committee of Parliament, but the dissolution of the Lok Sabha in 1979 saw the proposal lapsing once again.

In its commitment to provide the people with a "clean" and "reformed" administration, the Rajiv Gandhi Government introduced a new Lok Pal Bill in August, 1985. This draft too was sent to a Joint Select Committee but for reasons never made explicit, the Government decided to withdraw the Bill. The 1971 Bill covered both allegations of lack of integrity as well as complaints of maladministration. The 1977 Bill covered only charges of misconduct which was defined in wide terms. While the Janata Party's Bill included the Prime Minister within its scope, the Congress (I) draft did not.

The National Front Government's Bill does cover the Prime Minister. Since serious allegations were made by the Janata Dal against Mr Rajiv Gandhi in respect of the Bofors gun and other scandals, it would have been strange if the Bill had excluded the Prime Minister from its scope.

The Lok Pal, as now proposed, will have jurisdiction over the

Council of Ministers, including the Prime Minister, to tackle corruption at higher political levels. The Lok Pal, consisting of a Chairman and two members who are either sitting or retired Supreme Court Judges, will have the power to go into any complaint of corruption within the meaning of the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988. In the case of complaints against a Minister the competent authority would be the Prime Minister, and in the case of the Prime Minister it would be the Lok Sabha as he is ultimately responsible to the people through their representatives.

To enable the Lok Pal to perform its functions with the highest degree of objectivity and independence, it is provided that their salary and other conditions of service, including removal from office, will be those of the Chief Justice of India in the case of the Chairman and Judges of the Supreme Court in the case of other members.

There are provisions for secrecy of information and evidence collected during any enquiry by the Lok Pal. Intentional insult or interruption to, or bringing into disrepute, the Lok Pal or any of the members is punishable, and so also wilful or malicious complaints. The Lok Pal shall not have jurisdiction to conduct any enquiry into an allegation against the President, the Vice-President, the Speaker of the Lok Sabha, the Chief Justice or a Judge of the Supreme Court, the Comptroller and Auditor-General, the Election Commissioners and members of the UPSC.

Lok Ayuktas in States: Following the recommendations of the Administrative Reforms Commission that while the Lok Pal should tackle corruption cases in the Central Government, the States should be empowered to deal with complaints against their officials through Lok Ayuktas. They too would be required to deal with matters in the discretionary field involving acts of injustice, corruption or favouritism.

The major recommendations of the first all-India conference of Lok Ayuktas and Upa Lok Ayuktas held at Shimla in 1986 need consideration.

Though the recommendations were related to the functioning of the Lok Ayuktas and Upa Lok Ayuktas in the States, the suggestions are relevant even in respect of the proposed Lok Pal.

The major recommendations are: (a) The jurisdiction of the Lok Ayukta should include complaints against not only Ministers and public servants but also former Ministers and former public servants; (b) The institutions should be given constitutional status; (c) The jurisdiction should cover not only corrupt practices but also grievances and maladministration; (d) There should be separate independent investigating agencies under the control of the Lok Ayukta; (e) *Suo-motu* powers of investigation should be conferred.

Maharashtra and Bihar were among the States to enact Lok Ayukta Acts. On January 9 this year the Bihar Government decided to bring under the purview of the Lok Ayukta all government employees, the Chief Minister, all legislators and heads of registered institutions. It also makes mandatory for the Chief Minister to declare his assets to the Prime Minister and all Cabinet Ministers to the Chief Minister.

The suggestion to give constitutional status to the Lok Pal would go a long way in ensuring the prestige and status of this office. A meticulously formulated constitutional status wherein the powers, sphere of influence and authority are categorically defined would help in ensuring the independence of the institution and invest the office with the cloak of dignity.

Pitfalls and Prospects: The intention of the National Front Government to check corruption is indeed laudable. But there are many pitfalls which should be carefully avoided.

Political and personal factors often make the functioning of Vigilance Commissions, Lok Pals and other anti-corruption agencies difficult. The suggestion that the investigation could also cover former Ministers merits due consideration. A separate Upa Lok Pal could be created the scope of whose investigation would encompass offices of the

Central Government and employees of public corporations.

The Lok Pal must be assisted by an independent investigating authority functioning under his exclusive control. The experience of the Lok Ayuktas in the States has shown that allegations against Ministers could not be successfully investigated because the Lok Ayukta had no independent machinery under his control to conduct investigations.

The second all-India conference of the Lok Ayuktas and Upa Lok Ayuktas held at Nagpur in August 1989, urged the creation of an independent investigation cell for the Lok Ayukta. Such a provision for the Lok Pal is fundamental to its proper and efficient functioning.

The Lok Pal Bill, 1985, had a provision stipulating that a person who files a complaint before the Lok Pal would have to deposit a sum of Rs 1,000 which he would forfeit in the event of the complaint being proved untenable. This provision would inhibit those who are not in a position to afford this payment and still have a genuine complaint. Even in criminal cases, no one is required to make a deposit. The Lok Ayukta laws of States do not have any such requirements which can discourage ordinary persons from appealing. Eradication of corruption should not be left in the hands of those with money. The Swedish Ombudsman does not require any such deposit.

The requirement of "in camera" proceedings (Sec 12) should hold only for extraordinary, exceptional reasons. Lok Pal proceedings should be open sittings. The Bill makes disclosure of information about the complaint or proceedings before such proceedings are finalised an offence. This is against the spirit of free and fair right to news and press freedom. Section 22 is also uncalled for and takes away whatever has been given by the Lok Pal Bill. The jail threat if a complaint is found false would discourage them from approaching the Lok Pal.

Without an effective independent investigation agency, the Lok Pal cannot function well.

The Decade of Eighties

With the pyrrhic victory of a two-year old political party, the country is witnessing a new panorama on various fronts. How it should go about depends on what has or has not been accomplished by the previous Congress governments during the penultimate decade of the twentieth century. This is surveyed briefly in this feature.

I. Political scenario

The penultimate decade of the twentieth century has witnessed many ups and downs in the political, ideological, economic and social spheres on the national and international fronts. Countries in eastern and western Europe have experienced unprecedented politico-economic revolutions. It was a decade of crisis and turbulence, on the one hand, and of the beginning of a peace-making era, on the other.

Nearer home, the rise and fall of the monolithic Indian National Congress party-rule and the emergence of the non-Congress party-rule at the Centre constituted the hallmarks on the political horizon. The decade began with the debacle of the first-ever non-Congress government at the Centre and has ended with the rise of the composite National Front (NF) party forming the government. For the second time within a span of 12 years a non-Congress party (a five-party conglomerate) has made inroads into the citadel of the Congress.

The change in the political complexion is unique in many respects. The Janata Dal-dominated National Front government is admittedly a minority government but has a majority support, thanks to the two erstwhile opposition parties; the Bharatiya Janata Party and the Communist Party of India. The only buffer is the puerile ambition to break the dynastic rule of the Nehru

lineage and to end the alleged corrupt government of Rajiv Gandhi. Actually, it is the lust for power that binds them all together. Given the prevailing social make-up who can claim to be incorruptible? The utterances and policy pronouncements of the NF leaders do not bear out that they are men of integrity. Corruption originates from the minds of men and cannot be eliminated by just an Act.

The eighties have had three prime ministers: two representing the Congress party and one the NF or Janata Dal.

While Mrs Indira Gandhi held office for only four years upto October 31, 1984, when she fell to the bullet of her assassin, her successor Mr Rajiv Gandhi almost completed the full term of five years. He however opted to advance the Parliamentary elections by a month or so to November 1989. Whether the Janata Dal Prime Minister, Mr V.P. Singh, heading the "crutch-borne" government, will be able to provide a stable government for the five-year period is doubtful. It may be added that during the five or six weeks since its installation, the NF government has shown no signs of weakness or tottering. The political scenario is somewhat peculiar. The Congress numerically the largest single party cannot form a stable government unless it is able to enlist support of other parties to make up absolute majority in the Parliament; the second largest party—the National Front—cannot do so without the cooperation of the other parties. Disunity and distrust keep the parties asunder, though their leaders talk from house tops of 'unity in diversity' as a national characteristic and exhort the people to stand united.

A landmark in the history of elections is the enlargement of the electorate base by lowering the voting age from 21 to 18 years. As a result, an additional four million plus voters

joined the mainstream of the electorate. The new young voters, it seems, did not favour the Rajiv Gandhi government as the Congress party then hoped for. It is believed that this swing contributed to the debacle of the Congress at the hustings.

The complete rout of the Congress party in the 1989 elections in the Northern States is reminiscent of the post-emergency elections 12 years ago in 1977 when the Janata party (a conglomerate of many diverse parties/groups) had been romped home. Mr Morarji Desai—once a leading light in the Congress fold and a staunch Gandhian—led the Janata party government for a short period of two years. The Janata party despite the requisite majority to form a government lacked political cohesion and failed to sustain itself as the ruling party.

II. Social Front

On the social scene, the decade has seen steep decline in the high values of life. Discipline, character and culture have been the worst casualties. Corruption, dishonesty, communalism, black money generation, inhumanity, hatred and nihilism are at a premium. Spirituality, patriotism, fellow-feeling, compassion and affection have suffered big erosion. The rehabilitation of the loosened social fabric is a formidable challenge to which the new government must address itself.

To combat corruption at the highest level government has already taken the first step with the introduction of the Lokpal Bill and brought within its purview, for investigation and appropriate action under the law of the land, the conduct of the VIPs, including the Central government ministers and the prime minister. The NF government has urged the State chief ministers also to take a similar step by extending the scope of the Lok Ayukt Bill to cover the ministers as well as the chief ministers. It has

also called upon the Union ministers to declare their assets and liabilities. This measure will enable the government to monitor the accretions to the wealth and other assets of the VIPs during the time they hold office. It bears repetition that the introduction of the bill or its passage into a law is not sufficient. What is needed is to inculcate a sensitivity to corruption, which has spread like cancer.

Terrorism which had raised its ugly head in the Punjab in the first year of the eighties and has now engulfed some other States like Jammu and Kashmir is yet another unsavoury legacy. It is alleged that it triggered off with the Operation Bluestar in 1984 and caught up since in consequence of the wrong Congress policies. Though there is no let-up in the nefarious activities of the terrorists under the new regime, intensive efforts are afoot to curb them.

Criminalisation of politics has been much in evidence in the recent years of the last decade. This menace is spreading. If left unchecked, it will sap the vitality of the body politic endangering the hard-won freedom. The country is thus on the verge of a precipice. Unfortunately, India has not produced during the past 42 years of Independence any social, political or religious reformer who could steer clear the storm which has overtaken the nation.

III. Economic Horizon

The gloomy side apart, the decade of 1980s has seen the economy prosper. The NF government would do well to re-inforce the buoyancy of the economy instead of allowing the resources, energy and time fritter away in idle pursuits of dismantling the concepts, perceptions and programmes, pursued earlier, only to project a public image that it has recast everything to conform to the election manifesto. The statements of the NF are indicative of their intentions to make drastic changes in policies and plans. To contend that whatever the previous government thought or did was patently wrong is presumptuous. Of course, anything which is inherently defective may be

changed or revamped.

The growth objective in terms of higher gross domestic product has been achieved in a substantial measure. The Centre for Monitoring Indian Economy, Bombay, has estimated an unprecedented high growth rate of 10 per cent in GDP in 1988-89; 19.2 per cent in agriculture; 10.2 per cent in organised manufacturing sector; and 6 per cent in services.

(a) **Agriculture:** The agricultural sector has acquired considerable resilience as is evidenced from the fact that the fall in production in agriculture in 1987-88, the worst-ever drought year, was contained around 2 per cent while in the previous drought in 1979-80 it registered a decline of 15 per cent. Moreover, the year following the drought saw a quick recovery in foodgrain production, thanks to good monsoons.

Appropriately enough, the NF government is solicitous to boost the farm sector and has made a commitment to allocate nearly half of the plan outlay for its development. The advisability of "dumping" so much of investible resources in a weather-dependent sector, which is open to great risk and uncertainty, is open to question, however.

(b) **Industry:** The overall growth rate of industry during the 1980s was above 5 per cent per annum upto 1987-88. The Economic Advisory Council to the Prime Minister observes in the White Paper on the state of the economy that the index of industrial production (based on provisional data) registered a substantial deceleration to 3.8 per cent in the first half of the current year, 1989-90, while in the past five years it averaged to more than 8 per cent. During the sixth five year plan it was a little over 6 per cent.

A recent study made by the Associated Chambers of Industries notes with optimism that the industry can pick up the earlier growth tempo if capital outlays are stepped up, adequate foreign exchange is made available for import of critical raw materials, prices are contained, infrastructure improved and excise

and customs duty reduced.

The new industry ministry is planning to attract non-resident Indians to invest in industries where the government has no objection. For this a negative list enumerating industries in which foreign investment is tabooed will be released at the Davos meeting of International industrialists in February 1990.

Two important policy changes which marked the decade were: liberalisation of industrial licensing policy in favour of the private sector which means de-regulation, de-control, de-licensing (wherever necessary); and watering down of the public sector enterprises. This was also followed by a 3-year Exim policy which envisaged liberal imports and higher exports.

(c) **Fiscal imbalances:** The eighties is marked by widening gap between the public income and expenditure, exports and imports and mounting debts, external and internal. These distortions have fuelled inflation which hurts the poor more than others and impedes growth and equity-oriented development. The asset distribution is acutely skewed. Containment of growth in non-development expenditure should be the first task of the new government. It may be pointed out that the budgetary deficit has already crossed the level indicated in the last budget of the previous government.

Is the economy on the brink of bankruptcy as the NF government has tried to make out? This is an exaggerated picture even though it cannot be denied that the situation does cause concern. There is no "debt overhang" in the case of India as per the assessment of the EAC. The debt-GDP ratio is 20 per cent and the country's credit rating is high.

The EAC concludes "The tasks before the country are doubtless serious and daunting but we believe that they are manageable, provided judicious decisions are taken urgently and implemented expeditiously". Painting a bleak future will be detrimental to the NF government and more so to the country, as a whole.

New Controversy Over Governors

The use of State Governors as instruments for promoting political aims has been a familiar practice during the past few years. Another dimension to the issue has been added by the relatively new practice of changing Governors with a switch of the Government at the Centre. The proposition under discussion is: "The practice of changing Governors of States with every change of government at the Centre is unfair, unethical and smacks of political pollution."

Mr A Sir, during the past decade or so there has been a great deal of controversy over the selection and role of Governors, the use of Raj Bhavans as centres of political activity in favour of the ruling party, the imposition of these dignitaries on States by the Centre without consulting, and securing the consent of, the Chief Minister concerned, the trend of inducting retired officials, defeated party candidates and the predominance of extraneous considerations. At times, ambitious party legislators who cannot be accommodated in the ministry but who must be given cosy berths as a reward for services rendered to the party are appointed. In violation of the norms, Mr Rajiv Gandhi and Mrs Indira Gandhi made it a practice to select pliant Governors who would always obey the Central leadership and act as hatchetmen for dismissing opposition ministries and recommending President's rule whenever the Centre wanted to "discipline" the opposition party concerned. Naturally, the opposition parties in the country have protested against this practice. But even more objectionable and totally indefensible is the new "doctrine" enunciated by some prominent leaders of the National Front now governing the

country. On the advice of the Prime Minister, the President of India recently called for the voluntary resignations of all State Governors. The explanation given was that with the highly significant change of government at the Centre, it was advisable that the Governors should also be changed because most of them had been appointed by the previous regime and owed their position to the Congress (I). Accordingly, the Governors sent in their resignations. Three of them (those of Jammu and Kashmir, Punjab and Delhi) have already been replaced by persons who were considered more suitable for the posts. This trafficking in Governors and treating them as political appointees, and therefore changing them when a new government takes office, obviously has political motives. In effect, it lowers the dignity of the high post of State Governor. India's ambassadors fall in a different category; as normal and widely accepted practice, they submit their resignations when a new government takes over. A change in the complexion of the Government at the Centre implies that a different, or somewhat modified foreign policy is likely to be pursued. Quite often, the emphasis on certain aspects is changed and a new policy line adopted. But Governors are Constitutional functionaries and are supposed to be above politics. No wonder Mr V.K. Krishna Iyer, a former Supreme Court judge, has described the practice of changing Governors in this way as "political pollution". I believe everyone who swears by the Constitution and supports healthy conventions will agree with the proposition before the House. Such change of Governors smacks of political vendette.

Mr B I think it is unfair to

describe the move to change Governors with the assumption of office by a new party at the Centre as "trafficking in Governors". Since a State Governor is required by the Constitution to perform the functions of Executive head of the State and he is appointed by the President and holds office during his pleasure (that is, the pleasure of the Union Council of Ministers), it is necessary that he should not be actively associated with the policy and programme of a party ousted from power by the electorate. Governors hold key positions, and there is every possibility of a State Governor adopting a policy line that is different from that favoured by the new party governing the country. He may even defy Central directives. Such a situation would tantamount to a constitutional crisis, fully warranting dismissal of the erring Governor. Complications of this type and other unforeseen contingencies in respect of the actions taken by the Governor should certainly be avoided. This is easily accomplished by having Governors who subscribe to the same political ideology as the party in power at the Centre. That is why the National Front Government decided to ask for the resignations of Governors. But this does not mean that all the Governors would be changed. Another aim—and this too seems unexceptionable to me—was to weed out those Governors who had become controversial because of their partisan decisions, or those who are considered unfit to hold the high office because of the considerations that governed their appointment—sheer favouritism, the desire to accommodate discredited politicians who had been rejected by the electorate at a previous election. I would also like to draw the attention of this House to one of the guidelines informally adopted on January 29

this year at a meeting between the President of India and the Union Home Minister. They decided that non-Congress candidates who had suffered defeat in the recent elections would not be appointed Governors. In my view, the Union Home Minister, apparently at the instance of Prime Minister V.P. Singh, did well to discuss this issue with the President. This was never done, so far as the people know, by Mr Rajiv Gandhi and former Home Minister Buta Singh. Moreover, as those familiar with the practice adopted in the U.S.A. will bear me out, the Governors in that leading democracy submit their resignations with the change of the President. There is certainly some merit in this practice. I think the stand taken by the National Front Government that a new set of Governors in tune with the thinking of the new Government is desirable, needs favourable consideration.

Mr C It seems to me that my predecessor, Mr B, is trying to defend the indefensible. If we accept the policy and the dictum enunciated by the National Government leaders that there should be a new set of Governors whenever there is a change in the complexion of the Central Government, there would be confusing, and possibly untenable, situations. In fact, if the new dictum is closely examined, it would appear that the Front leaders are now attempting to perpetuate the very practice they profess to abolish, namely, the induction of Governors who are pliant, flexible in character and wholly subservient to the Centre. It is a question of general approach to the issue. If the Centre feels that it must have an obedient Governor in each State to ensure its full control, and therefore the appointees must be "in tune with the policy of the ruling party", frequent changes at the high level would become unavoidable. In France, it is said, every other person is a former Minister. In that country, ministries changed very frequently until recently, and there was a

regular traffic of incomers and outgoers. That caused a lot of confusion and few people knew whose politics were in force at a particular time. There would be a host of ex-Governors in this country. The Governor, according to the Constitution, has strictly formal functions to perform, except of course in an Emergency declared by the Union President under Article 356 when there is Presidential, in effect, the Governor's rule and he is all in all. But far more important than the considerations that weigh with the appointing authority (the President acting on the advice of the Union Council of Ministers, and not in his discretion) are the criteria recommended by the Sarkaria Commission which made an exhaustive study of the working of the Centre-State relations. Four of these criteria deserve special mention: the person selected for a gubernatorial post must be eminent in some walk of life, he should be a person from outside the State to which he is posted, he should be a detached figure and not too intimately connected with the local politics of the State, and should be a person who has not taken too great a part in politics generally, particularly in the recent past. Fully supporting these criteria, Mr Justice Krishna Iyer has also suggested that a politician from the ruling party at the Centre should not be appointed Governor of a State being run by some other party or a combination of parties. Otherwise, there would be conflicts and avoidable tensions. Justice Iyer has also expressed the opinion that former Prime Ministers Mrs Gandhi and Rajiv Gandhi flouted every rule of propriety set out in this connection. They cared little for Constitutional proprieties.

Mr D My friend Mr C has made some pertinent observations. In fact, he rightly quoted the Sarkaria Commission's recommendations which I fully support and which I wanted to quote myself to support my views. If, instead of letting every Governor have the five-year term envisaged in Article

156(3), the ruling party at the Centre takes undue advantage of the provision that says that the Governor will hold office during the pleasure of the President (which obviously means the Council of Ministers under whose advice the President makes all appointments) many eminently qualified people will not accept the post. Only those who are hungry for office, especially sinecures, will readily accept an appointment. The country would be the loser in such cases because there would be unfit or mediocre Governors in many States. The most suitable persons would prefer not to become playthings of party politics. They would prefer not to lose their dignity. As long as a Governor acts constitutionally and not in a partisan manner as some indeed did (Mr Ram Lal in Andhra Pradesh, for example), he or she should not be asked to quit. A Governor is supposed to be a dependable guide and counsellor but if he acquires the reputation of being a mere agent and deputy of the party in power, he will lose the people's respect. Politician-Governors bring discredit and even disgrace to this exalted office. They should neither be made political scapegoats nor trifled with. As for the suggestion that the Centre must not impose a Governor on any State and must consult the Chief Minister concerned, I think this is a healthy convention. After all, the Governor has to act on the advice of the Chief Minister (except in emergency and any other extraordinary contingency). Let us assess the situation in J & K where Mr Jagmohan was reappointed Governor despite Dr Farooq Abdullah's strong protest. In such cases we may expect confrontations and conflicts at the highest level. But in the case of West Bengal, the Central Government has apparently acted on the advice of Chief Minister Jyoti Basu and decided to reappoint Mr Nurul Hasan who had earlier been shifted to Orissa as Governor. It is time the dignity of Governors was restored.

Argumentative Questions on Social and Economic Problems

The following are complete answers to questions set in the examination for clerical cadre posts of the public Sector Banks conducted by the BSRB, Lucknow, recently.

FOREIGN LANGUAGES

Q. Many people try to learn a foreign language. Give various possible reasons why people learn foreign languages.

Ans. Even though a language is primarily a means of communication with fellow members of our society and for use in the family, several persons enlist themselves in institutions for learning a foreign language. Several institutions in cities such as Delhi, Bombay and Calcutta provide coaching in one or more foreign languages. For instance, there are institutions which conduct classes in French, Russian and German languages. Some of these institutions are subsidised by foreign embassies which regard it as part of their duty to propagate their country's culture and traditions. The various reasons why people want to learn a foreign language are:

One: Some people intend to visit the country where that particular language is spoken. For instance, those who are planning a trip to France want to learn French; those who intend to go to Germany or the Soviet Union are eager to learn the language of these countries. They do so to overcome the handicap implicit in lack of knowledge of the language they would have to speak or at any rate, understand.

Two: Several young boys and girls opt for French language in colleges which have the requisite facility for imparting instruction in it because they wish to qualify for

teaching jobs in that language. Such qualification is deemed essential when the jobs are advertised by the educational authorities.

Three: The Central Government often sends cultural and other delegations to foreign countries to promote goodwill and greater understanding. Such delegations are sent on a reciprocal basis, as agreed upon in agreements signed with visiting dignitaries of a foreign country. The selections for these delegations are made on the basis of certain criteria one of which is knowledge of the language of the country where the delegation is being sent.

Four: Young men and women who are selected as members of the Indian staff in this country's embassies abroad are generally asked to learn the language of that country; if they do not know the relevant language, they cannot communicate with the people there. Those who are supposed to carry out intelligence work or public relations activity in a foreign country will not be able to perform their duties if they are ignorant of the language of the area where they are serving.

Five: Some big business houses have or intend to establish commercial contacts with foreign countries to push through sales of their manufactured goods or raw materials. These giant concerns have separate wings for dealing with various countries and for purposes of carrying on communications with those countries. They sometimes appoint clerks and secretaries to translate business communications or write letters to be sent to the trade destinations.

Six: The External Affairs Ministry of the Government of India requires smart young people, both male and female, for acting as translators and interpreters whenever foreign digni-

taries come for goodwill visits to Delhi. Such interpreters have to be fluent in at least one foreign language and also in English so that they can act as liaison staff whenever required.

Similarly, All India Radio arranges broadcasts in some foreign languages to propagate India's standpoint for the benefit of certain countries. People knowing foreign languages are naturally selected for preparing and broadcasting such news bulletins and manuscripts of talks to be put on the air for discussions on current affairs and for explaining the Government's policies.

RESERVATIONS FOR HANDICAPPED

Q. Some people feel that there should not be any reservation for physically handicapped persons in various jobs, whereas others do not agree with this. Explain your position in regard to the above statement.

Ans. There are indeed various viewpoints on the issue of reserving some jobs for the physically handicapped in various arenas of activity. I am of the view that some posts should certainly be earmarked for persons who are physically handicapped. Such handicapped people deserve all the help, sympathy and support we can give them. They are fellow human beings after all. There is no reason why we should become so callous as to deny them some assured employment through reservations.

Because of their handicap, they cannot compete with physically fit people in the tough race for jobs. They are either without all their limbs intact or have been disabled by accident of birth or through mishaps,

a deadly disease or some other reason. For no fault of theirs, they find themselves in a pathetic condition. Unless there is a specific quota of reservations for them, or some charitable institution provides them food regularly, they would starve. Would it be fair to let these unfortunate people die of starvation because Nature or Man has been unkind to them in some way. We should put ourselves for a moment in their position and imagine their plight.

The Government rightly makes reservations for the sections of society which are backward educationally, socially and economically. Every political party goes out of its way to ensure jobs for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, in order to ensure their goodwill for political purposes. What is the justification for leaving out the physically handicapped people from the purview of reservations? As individuals they have as much need for sympathy and extra support as any other section of society. Would it not be cruel and inhuman to leave such people alone, ignore them and leave them to fend for themselves? Denying them special consideration in the shape of job quotas would be the height of injustice. We should in fact go all out, even by suffering inconvenience, to give them relief.

True, the handicapped persons will not be able to do the work allotted to them expeditiously and speedily. But we should be tolerant and considerate towards them.

BAN ON STRIKES

Q. "Total ban on strikes is a boon to our society." Give two arguments in Favour and two Against the view expressed in this statement.

Ans. Strikes have become a familiar feature of almost every industrialised country today. Wherever there are factories and a large number of industrial workers, labour unrest prevails now and then on account of inadequate wages, unsatisfactory working conditions, lack of various amenities and small bonus despite good profits. Trade union leaders often arrange strikes, sometimes on

flimsy pretexts.

Arguments For the View

1. A ban on strikes is certainly a boon to our society because it ensures continuity of work in factories and enhanced industrial production which is essential for national economy and also for exports. A strike interrupts the production processes, brings a bad name to the country whenever trade contracts for supply of goods are not fulfilled. The country loses much good will abroad if the promised goods are not delivered in time. Interruption of delivery schedules causes much economic loss to the country.

2. The "closed shop" system under which outsiders cannot be recruited by employers even in times of urgent need to cope with demands for higher production results in a loss of potential markets. Apart from the industrial ramifications, the country also loses when there are strikes. So a total ban is conducive to national welfare.

3. The workers, by and large, do not like going on strike and losing their daily wages on which they depend for feeding their families. It is the trade union leaders who dictate their terms on both workers and factory owners. It is sheer compulsion that makes many workers keep away from factories. So a ban is wholly defensible.

Even while the right of workers to go on strike when their reasonable demands are not met, it must be recognised that workers, after all, constitute only one section of society; they have no business to dictate their terms on the rest of the community.

4. If strikes by students and teachers are also banned, the standard of education would improve, there would be peace in college campuses. Real education would be possible and fulfil a long-felt need. The fast spreading "strike fever" is certainly anti-national and steps to check it should be welcomed.

Arguments Against the View

1. Since exploitation of labour by greedy capitalists is a common and

unchecked phenomenon, a total legal ban on strikes is unfair to a poor and deserving section of the population. The right to strike is now recognised in most countries a total ban takes away that right. It is only in periods of national emergency that a ban should be considered. Strikes are the only real and effective weapon available to the workers who are aggrieved and are denied justice by influential employers in collusion with the police and other official agencies.

2. In this topsy-turvy world injustices and inequalities prevail in many regions. One such injustice is exploitation of labour. The employers often exploit the helpless workers and the laws designed to ensure a fair deal to workers and expeditious redress or disposal of grievances have not proved effective despite the machinery provided by the Government. Is it not unfair to deny the aggrieved people the only effective weapon they have—strike?

3. The workers create, to a large degree, the profits pocketed by the capitalist; so it is right that they should be assured a reasonable share. Very few employers readily pay a good share of their profits to the workers; it is the threat, or an actual strike, that alone proves effective and brings the employers down from their high perch and compels them to negotiate with their workers. A total ban on strikes facilitates further exploitation by unscrupulous capitalists. It also tends to perpetuate the misery and sufferings of labour.

WILD ANIMALS

Q. Suppose there are no wild animals on the earth. What will happen? Give three instances that may happen which others may not think of.

Ans. Wild animals have existed on earth, especially in jungles, throughout history. Uncivilised man was himself wild in the initial stages of life. So it is highly improbable that wild life will disappear. Certain consequences of disappearance can hardly ever be visualised.

1. Wild animals provide food

(meat of various kinds) to human beings. If there are no wild animals, where will the non-vegetarians get food from? Millions of people around the world, especially in far-off regions, eat animal flesh partly because they find it necessary and partly because they have a taste for it, even while the vegetarians find the very sight of meat repulsive.

2. Apart from food in the shape of nourishing meat, wild animals are also a source of highly useful leather which is used for shoes of various shapes and varieties for people everywhere, coats for women in cold countries. If there are no animals, there would be no leather jackets and shoes for men and women, no coats and other leather products for women, innumerable in number.

3. Wild life is regarded as precious and there are specific laws to prevent loss of such life and for preservation of animals in various parks and enclosures which are declared protected areas. Certain species are in fact highly valued and every care is taken to ensure that they are not killed or allowed to become extinct on any account. This would not have been done if wild animals did not serve a very useful purpose. Careful preservation of wild and other animals in zoos is a declared Government policy. Human beings, especially children, like to see wild animals. Watching them is educative also.

4. Affluent people of all races derive much pleasure from shooting expeditions in forests where wild animals live. Human beings would be deprived of this pleasure, and also of such material as ivory which comes only from elephants' tusks. Elephants also bring logs from forests to the plains.

Besides, wild animals such as tigers and lions do much havoc. They maul and kill such human beings they can seize, to satisfy their substantial appetite. They also ruin crops and cause much loss to farmers by eating their cattle. If wild animals disappear, the country would benefit because the damage to food crops would be avoided and the lives of jungle dwellers, and farmers (especially their

women and children) who live in isolated areas would be saved. Animals captured and kept in zoos form only a fraction of the total wild life; the majority of them freely roam the forests and kill many human beings.

INDIA'S RICH RESOURCES

Q. In India there is a huge amount of human as well as natural resources available, but still the country is under-developed. Suggest four measures to solve the problem for ever. Explain clearly how and why the measures suggested by you will be useful.

Ans. India is described as a rich country in respect of resources—plenty of river waters, dense forests, minerals (in the Bihar, Orissa and other belts), vast land (much of it fertile and fairly well irrigated), immense wealth under the sea in the territorial waters (300-mile zone), sunshine round the year except during the rainy season, and much else besides. As for human resources, there are millions of people having the capacity for work on agricultural land and in factories.

The country has the third largest scientific manpower, next only to the U.S.A. and the Soviet Union. And yet poverty stalks the land almost from end to end. India ranks among the world's 10 countries having the lowest per capita income, only a fraction of the people live in comfort and in luxurious mansions; the rest lead a miserable existence or live at the bare subsistence level.

The following measures are suggested to solve the problem of poverty and under-development on a permanent basis.

1. The Government should abandon its commitment to socialism under which the quest for economic equality has proved almost fruitless. Extensive control of industry, and of the economy in general, has thwarted individual initiative and enterprise. The Rs 350,000-crore public sector has not yielded the requisite dividends; it has led to waste of resources, corrup-

tion and mismanagement. To expedite economic development of their countries, even the Communist regimes, notably those of the Soviet Union and of the East Bloc countries have switched on by stages to policies that are more fruitful so far as questions of development and meeting the needs of the people are concerned.

Filling hungry stomachs, providing adequate shelter to the poverty-stricken masses is more important than ideology.

2. A good part of the blame for the waste of resources, mismanagement of the economy, gross inefficiency that hinders progress and non-fulfilment of the targets, lies on the indifferent bureaucracy, which in practice is not accountable to anyone, specialises in red-tape, and concentrates on formalities and procedures, not on concrete development. If the bureaucracy is made more efficient, more responsible and more accountable for failures and lapses, economic development will be speedier and far more extensive and durable than it is now. The bureaucracy is unimaginative; hence the tardy development of the country.

3. The scandalous under-utilisation, neglect and unfair treatment of the country's scientific and technical personnel is another cause of our relatively slow progress. Very often, scientific and technical personnel are not given the requisite encouragement and incentives. This leads to frustration among talented people and also, in many cases, to suicide. The continuous brain drain of India's scientific, technical and other talent is another dismal sequel to the Government's ill-conceived policies. I think if adequate incentives are provided to Indian scientists many of them would stay in the country regardless of the conditions here.

Besides, the Indian scientists devote their time and energy to repetitive research on fancy projects, not on projects that would benefit the Indian farmers and other categories of people. Considerable heart-searching is needed to set matters right.

MODEL PARAGRAPHS

"That cause is strong which has not multitude, but one strong man behind it."

—J.R. Lowell.

"Too many cooks spoil the broth", is an age-old saying. Similarly more than one strong man behind a cause, however genuine and generous, leads to confusion and contradictions. 'One cause, one leader' has been the story of man's struggle against odds and obstacles, both natural and social; material and spiritual; political and economic. The success of a cause is determined by the personality that adopts and pursues it. Much fervour and vigour of a cause is lost when the strong man is removed from the scene or too many men pounce to seize it. Just as too many voices result in cacophony, in the same way too many protagonists kill the sway and spirit of the cause due to their conflicting egos and dubious perceptions. The intensity of a cause can be best served and carried forward to its culmination by an equally strong and sterling character. The moment it falls into the hands of the multitude, its essence gets diluted and distorted and thus it becomes a hand-maiden of small and silly sorts who use it as a spring-board to jump the queue. Whenever such a reckless and ruthless attempt has been made, the consequences have been deadly and disastrous.

"The future destiny of the child is always the work of the mother."

—Napoleon.

"The hand that rocks the cradle rules the world." Mother, like the Earth, has conceived; carried and borne the blissful burden of life in her womb and since the ages both have been worshipped—Mother as Shakti and Earth as Mother. Both symbolise silent but steadfast strength of what is unique and universal in concept and content.

After God, it is the mother who is omnipresent and compassionate. Without the benevolence and blessings of the mother, the contours of a family remain incomplete and incoherent. The child, who is the youth of tomorrow and the man of day after, derives his strength and receives his early sermons in her lap which is as inspiring and warming as the sky above and earth below. The child is like a clean slate on which the mother writes the first lessons of virtue, valour and veracity. To the father belongs the building of civilization and its paraphernalia but to the mother goes the credit of bringing up the child who is the foundation of that civilization. Like a sculptor, the mother chisels and moulds the character of the child and thus makes of him a paragon of exceptional beauty of head and heart like Shivaji, Vivekananda, Napoleon et al.

"Great minds have purposes, others have wishes."

—Washington Irving.

The river of life, since time immemorial, has been kept clean not by wishes but by purposes alone. Only such men live as impart a pointed purpose to life while the rest rust in the tempting but illusory cobweb of wishes and wishful thinking. Purposeful living is a rigorous and relentless crusade against the strangle-hold of wishes which leads but to the petrifying pit of decay and death. Men of clay as we are, the temptation to fall before wishes is a natural weakness but men of purpose and destiny deliberately choose a way of life which is full of challenges and uncertainties. Wishes, like venom, wither us away, whereas purposes like propellers push us forward to the pinnacle of universality. Mahatma Buddha's life is scintillating saga of struggle for supremacy

of purpose over wishes. If wishes subjugate and enslave, purposes redeem and release us from our self-imposed slavery. Great minds are moved by lofty purposes whereas ordinary mortals get trapped in the vicious cycle of wishes. Wishes are not horses but purposes are certainly pillars and posts, the call of which is both edifying and enduring.

"Suffering is the testimony of faith".

—Mahatma Gandhi.

Our ancient scriptures rightly pronounced at the dawn of history that suffering for faith led to salvation whereas suffering in blind faith degenerated into servility. 'Courting death for faith', is the proud privilege of a chosen few only. Whether we talk of Socrates, Christ or Gandhi, the only thing common among them was their firm faith and candid conviction that fear or lack of faith was the root cause of all evil and human degradation. Faith is like fire, by passing through which the purity of human character becomes manifest and transparent. Faith is generally out of tune with times, and therefore, the protagonists of every new faith have to swallow poison like Socrates, suffer crucifixion like Christ or face the bullets like Gandhi. It is only after their supreme sacrifice that they acquired the 'halo' of 'superior beings' to be placed on a 'pedestal' as objects of veracity and veneration. Faith is cosmic but suffering is individual. It has been proved time and again that if faith brings suffering, it heals our sullen and sorrowful state of mind in the midst of all pervasive doubts and diffidence. Men of faith are always with 'mystic revelation and tranquil restoration', in which the "burden of mystery and the weary weight of this unintelligible world is lighted" and they begin to see into the life of things.

Building Opinions and Images

As a part of personality development, it is essential for you to draw a line between your honest opinions and prejudices, superficial thinking and convictions. Though such an attempt is not easy to make, it is imperative because it provides an insight into your real being. You begin to feel a lot more confident. It is like finding your anchor.

Let us take one illustration: It is often said that consistency is a quality which every sensible person should cultivate. Fine. But a careful examination will reveal to you that consistency when carried too far or when it converts into obstinacy becomes a negative attribute. How? Life teaches us hundred and one things. We learn our lessons as we travel the even and uneven paths of life. Now, this naturally makes us revise our thinking. If we were to stick to our old and outmoded thinking merely in the name of consistency, we would remain mentally stunted in growth. A person who does not change his views as he goes through life or does not find for himself valid reasons for sticking to his first ones is the one who has not fully grown. In other words, he has missed the lessons of life—the greatest school.

It is in this light that we say that consistency is not necessarily a positive attribute. Or at least not a quality to which you must adhere at any cost. It may be a reflection of an empty mind! A person who shifts his interests in rapid succession is living a more meaningful and interesting life than the one who stays put. The former is growing, the latter merely vegetating.

Take two children. The one whose interests are wider and who does not stay put learns far quicker than the one whose interests remain confined to one or two things. There will be a marked difference between the overall development of the two.

An exception is when the concentration on the task is due to self-discipline and the desire to arrive at an objective. Perseverance is an active attribute but what is called "perseveration" is a passive sticking in a repetitive groove and a high degree of it can mean nothing but a vacant mind.

This somewhat lengthy introduction has been given to prove that there are certain ways in which opinions are built, especially those which reflect your personality. Once we understand this, it will be easier to outline those important areas which help in building a favourable image of ourselves.

Your family plays an important role in moulding your opinions, in their formation and the subsequent image of your own self. A family devoted to clean, moral values, for example, will affect you in a fair way in forming a cleaner image of you. You will carry some whiffs of it in the outside world.

Another family in which self-help is taught through practice will eventually result in the formation of the child's image in such a manner that each member does his best according to his capacity to keep the family wheels running. A child from such a family will be self-assured, independent on others and full of initiative. His opinion of himself will be higher and his image in his own estimation brighter.

Even ordinary conversation in family life goes a long way in the formation of opinions and images. This may work at a very deep subconscious level. Suggestibility plays a tremendous part. It is a powerful weapon in the formation and deformation of personality. Suggestibility is the tendency to accept an idea and to act on it because someone suggested that you should, and not because you have intentionally considered the idea and determined on that specific

course of action. Suggestions work on the sub-conscious level and it is that which makes it so powerful. Suggestion is the main means whereby a person is influenced. It is far more powerful than orders. Suggestion can be of two kinds: positive and negative. A father says to his child, "You are a good boy. You will not do anything to hurt anybody. You will please both your parents." This is a positive suggestion. Another says, "You are a naughty little imp. You will grow into a clever man." Seemingly light in content, it has a serious negative content. It is highly suggestive that the child should grow into a bigger imp from a little one. In all likelihood, he would. It may be added here that suggestion works through two factors: prestige and repetition.

We are living in a world which is bombarded day in and day out with all sorts of propaganda, publicity which are full of suggestions. In other words, a person is no longer open to suggestion from immediate social contacts and family members. He is subjected to suggestions from far and wide too. Take the power of the printed word. "I have read it in the paper today", carries the note of finality in it.

We are not suggesting that newspapers mislead their readers. The point is that the suggestibility of the printed word is a factor which cannot be overlooked in the shaping of modern man's personality. Added to this are more factors like radio and T.V. Like the newspaper, these two media reach millions of people and exercise powerful influence. How a particular individual is being effected by these media depends on his development of suggestibility and contra-suggestibility.

Propaganda begins to have its effect because it is repeated. When it is constantly dinned into our ears that a particular brand of tooth cream banishes stink, young girls and boys

begin to believe in it. When we are told time and again that shampooing hair with a particular shampoo stops falling of hair or removes dandruff, it becomes difficult to resist the implication.

Despite hazards, it is possible to safeguard against the onslaught of such suggestions. The real solution to the problem lies in cultivating a scientific temperament, an objective outlook and independent thinking. There is no point in accepting anybody's assertion when he says, "I am telling you." He is simply passing his mind to yours. He wants you to accept it without question. If you do that, you become an extension of that person. Your mind is pawned. You are brainwashed. Your opinions and images will not be original. You will be a pale reflection of someone else. This need not be taken to mean as a lesson in nihilism. It is being stressed so that you develop right approach, sound judgement and rational attitudes. These put together make a balanced personality.

It is not at all difficult to find out whether or not you are open to suggestibility without analysing the suggestion. Someone says something in your presence which sounds like "highly confidential". If you lap it up and begin to pass it on at once telling everybody that you are giving them highly confidential information, you can draw your own conclusion.

Take another test. Just recollect how much money you spend on goods which are advertised in the press, over radio or TV. You will discover how your opinions and images are being built by your own self or by others.

The bigger question of suggestibility is so much linked with your development and well being that it is perhaps difficult for you to visualise its importance. Though it is an impossible and Herculean task to act as a mental sieve to prevent percolation of suggestions down to your inner recesses, some helpful hints can be acquired. One broad principle is: always give and accept positive suggestions. Playing pun on words, we would say: let us take pains to give pleasure.

Suggestions are important and play a vital role. But suggestions from the self are more vital. Auto-suggestion plays such a vital part that it can make or mar a complete personality. "I am capable of performing my job well", is a positive auto-suggestion. "I cannot do it. What's the use?" is the negative auto-suggestion which is bound to be reflected in your opinions and images.

Following one's own bent is a tough job. "To be nobody but myself in a world which is doing its best, night and day, to make you everybody else", means to fight the hardest battle which any human being can fight, and never stop fighting. How easy it is to follow the crowd and take refuge in gregariousness.

Comparison Trap

Self-comparison is virtually a universal malady, afflicting all but the toughest of resisters. You look outward for your behavioural cues and consequently comparison-vision dictates most of your judgements. How do you know that you are intelligent?—you compare yourself to others. How do you know if you are stable? Charming? Poised? Successful? Actualized?—by checking out how others around you are doing and then deciding where you fit in the comparison scale.

The self-comparison game is deadly because in it your assessments of yourself are always controlled by something outside you which you cannot regulate. It deprives you of internal security as you cannot be certain how others assess you. You are robbed of your individuality and by playing the sedulous ape to others you become a lost and hopeless victim of the pernicious game—a sort of copy cat or a discreet sheep.

Even deadlier is the game of allowing yourself to be compared by others. They play a variety of comparison games to keep you from realizing your objectives, or to manipulate you into doing what they want you to do.

Be on the alert: don't walk into these traps.

Preserve your identity. That way lies fulfilment.

"Man is always an individual, but he is not always himself", says Jung. Be yourself.

Have a good look at yourself and your very personal aspirations, and appreciate the absurdity of running your life on the basis of comparisons with others. People who are interested in having you to be as they are, or as they want you to be, will repeatedly remind you of how others are doing things to give you solid examples to follow. Resist their suggestions and your own temptation to look outside yourself for model.

Comparisons make no Sense

Comparisons in fact make no sense, for two reasons: you are unique in the world and you are always alone.

Give free play to your individuality. Follow your own bent of mind no matter what other people say. Never follow the crowd. Design your own life style and follow it with calm self-confidence, and creative courage.

To sum up, it is important for you to keep before you a picture of yourself as you want to be. You can have a bright person to look at in the mirror.

STATEMENT

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I, D.D. Khanna, hereby declare that the particulars given above are true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

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Signature of Publisher—D.D. Khanna

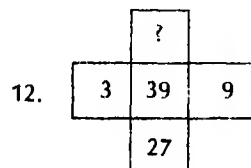
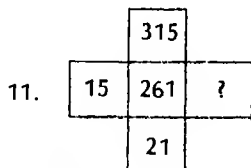
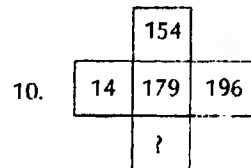
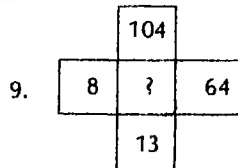
TEST OF REASONING-I

NUMBER SERIES

Find out the missing numbers in the series given below:

1. 4; 7; 13; 25; ...; 97.
2. 11; 13; 17; ...; 41; 73.
3. 1; 2; 6; 15; 31; ...
4. 5; 8; 14; 23; 35; ...
5. 7; 21; 3; ...; 5; 20; 4.
6. 8; 17; 25; 42; 67; ...
7. 99; 90; 92; ...; 85; 86.
8. 56; 36; 49; 42; ...; 48.

In questions 9 to 12, numbers have been arranged according to a certain pattern. Your task is to find out the missing ones.



The arrangement of numbers in columns and rows given below follows the same pattern. Find out the missing numbers:

13.

16	30	10
6	66	4
26	?	50
14.

52	55	24
11	?	13
76	143	219
15.

24	35	13
7	103	?
37	42	79
16.

4	45	10
?	27	1
14	9	23

Answer the following questions on the basis of relationship shown in the first set.

17. $9 : 27 :: ? : 64$

18. $3 : 10 :: 5 : ?$

19. $5 : 9 :: 7 : ?$

20. $11 : 120 :: 1 : ?$

LETTER SERIES

Tick mark the choice with similar pattern to letters given in question:

21. $QNI^3M : YVXU : NKMJ : VSUR$
(a) GC FB (b) MKIJ
(c) HECGD (d) YWXU
22. $IFH IML : CBGF : ONSR : AZED$
(a) ANI^3O (b) LKRQ
(c) V^3UY.X (d) QPUT
23. $BYI EV : DWJQ : FUHS : AZLO$
(a) EV^3RS (b) MNKP
(c) G^3TKL (d) PSQR
24. $FLR : KQW : HNT : CIO$
(a) GN^3S (b) BIN
(c) MR^3W (d) YEJ

Find out the missing numbers and letters in the following questions:

25.

B	10	?	6	J	2
12	D	?	H	4	L

26.

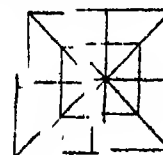
M	13	P	16	?	23
14	N	20	S	?	B

Calculate the value of the following on the basis of the position of the letter in the alphabetical order.

27. $P + N - Y = ?$
(a) D (b) E (c) G (d) F
28. $(M \times B) - W = ?$
(a) C (b) B (c) P (d) Q

DIAGRAM STUDY

Study the following diagram and answer the questions that follow.



29. How many triangles are there in the figure?
30. How many squares are there?

CODING-DECODING

Words on the left are written in their code form on the right. Your task is to find out which letter represents the letter in the box.

31. ROASTED
(a) y (b) j (c) p (d) f (e) d (f) m (g) b
32. SHOCKED
(a) d (b) x (c) m (d) g (e) p (f) j (g) v
33. TEACHER
(a) g (b) y (c) f (d) b (e) j (f) i (g) j
34. MENTION
(a) j (b) f (c) w (d) d (e) q (f) q (g) l
35. COUNTER
(a) n (b) f (c) b (d) j (e) q (f) d (g) g
36. TORMENT
(a) d (b) q (c) f (d) l (e) f (f) b (g) j

According to a certain code:

dum cum hum pum means Mohan is expected today.
tum jum sum cum means We are late today.
hum kum tum num means Mohan was late yesterday.
vum sum kum pum means We were expected yesterday.

37. What is the code for 'expected'?

- (a) dum
(b) cum
(c) kum
(d) pum

38. What does 'num' mean?

- (a) Mohan
(b) was
(c) late
(d) yesterday

STATISTICS

Given below is the percentage of workers in the branches A, B, C and D of a certain firm for five consecutive years. Study the chart and answer the questions that follow:

Branches	YEARS	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988
	No. of workers	1600	1800	1900	2080	3000
A		23%	28%	31%	25%	19%
B		17%	27%	12%	20%	29%
C		34%	22%	21%	10%	34%
D		26%	23%	36%	45%	18%

39. What is the total number of workers employed by branch C during the period of five years?

- (a) 3192
(b) 2498
(c) 2613
(d) 2567

40. How many workers were employed by branch D in the year 1986?

- (a) 684
(b) 733
(c) 679
(d) 669

41. Workers employed by B are approximately what per cent of the total number of workers?

- (a) 21.89%
(b) 24.14%
(c) 23.29%
(d) 20.99%

42. Number of workers employed in 1986 is approximately what per cent of the total number of workers?

- (a) 19.27%
(b) 17.81%
(c) 18.3%
(d) 19.96%

43. How many workers were employed in branch A in 1987?

- (a) 416
(b) 552
(c) 520
(d) 490

44. What is the average number of workers per year?

- (a) 2076
(b) 2112
(c) 2311
(d) 2098

45. What is the average number of workers employed per branch?

- (a) 2616
(b) 2595

(c) 2076

(d) 2615

LOGICAL DIAGRAMS

The items in questions given below have been represented by circles irrespective of their size. Your task is to match the right question with the right set of circles on the basis of relationship among the items.

46. Konark : Man Sarowar : India



47. eye : face : retina



48. dictionary : sketch-book : word



49. tea : coffee : fruit juice



50. music : rhythm : dance



ANSWERS AND EXPLANATIONS

1. 49. The arrangement is $(4 \times 2) - 1$; $(7 \times 2) - 1$; $(13 \times 2) - 1$...
2. 25. Go on adding 2, 4, 8, 16, 32... to numbers.
3. 56. Add 1^2 ; 2^2 ; 3^2 ... to numbers.
4. 50. Numbers 3, 6, 9, 12... are added to numbers.
5. 15. Each alternate number is the product of numbers on its right and left.
6. 109. Add two preceding numbers to get the next one.
7. 88. There are two series, one with a difference of 7, i.e., 99, 92, 85... and the other one with a difference of 2.
8. 42. This one has two series too, 56, 49, 42... and 36, 42, 48...
9. 85. The arrangement is $8 \times 13 = 104$; $8^2 = 64$; $8 + 13$

$$+ 64 = 85.$$

10. 11

11. 225

12. 81

13. 24

The pattern is $6 \times 4 = 24$; $4 \times 4 = 16$; $6 \times 5 = 30$; $6 + 4 = 10$; $26 + 24 = 50$; $10 + 16 = 26$ and $50 + 16 = 66$

14. 271

15. 6

16. 9

17. 16. First number is square of a certain number, the next one is the cube of the same number.

18. 26. The next one is $x^2 + 1$.

19. 13. The next one is $(x \times 2) - 1$.

20. 0. The next one is $x^2 - 1$.

21. (c)

22. (d)

23. (b)

24. (a)

25. F and 8. Letters go zig-zagging dropping one letter in between and corresponding numbers do the same from opposite side.

26. W and 2. One extra letter is dropped each time, the corresponding numbers are on the right in the upper row and on the left in the lower one.

27. (b) $16 + 4 - 25 = 5$ i.e., E.

28. (a) $(13 \times 2) - 23 = 3$ i.e., C

29. 32

30. 10

31 to 36. Go on selecting common letters in words and match them with common coded letters.

31. (d)

32. (g)

33. (b)

34. (c)

35. (a)

36. (d)

37. (d)

38. (b)

39. (d)

40. (a)

41. (a)

42. (c)

43. (c)

44. (a)

45. (b)

46. E. Both Konark and Man Sarowar are in India.

47. D. Eye is in face and retina in eye.

48. A. Words are in dictionary; sketch-book is a different item.

49. C. All are different items.

50. B. Rhythm is common to both, dance as well as music.

TEST OF REASONING-II

ODD-MAN

Find the odd-man out:

1. (a) telephone (b) phonograph
(c) pentograph (d) microphone
(e) megaphone
2. (a) blaze (b) shimmer
(c) glint (d) simmer
(e) glimmer
3. (a) Zoroastrian (b) Jew
(c) Greek (d) Buddhist
(e) Mohammedan
4. (a) love (b) clasp
(c) cuddle (d) nestle
(e) caress
5. (a) offend (b) incense
(c) irritate (d) infuriate
(e) disobey
6. (a) Cochin (b) Allepey
(c) Marmagao (d) Lonawala
(e) Kandla
7. (a) king (b) bishop
(c) knight (d) queen
(e) minister
8. (a) gooseberry (b) beri beri
(c) strawberry (d) black berry
(e) orange

ANALOGIES

On the basis of the relationship between words, tick mark (✓) the choice that matches with the question.

9. caterpillar : butterfly
(a) subjects : king (b) brick : house
(c) cat : tiger (d) puppy : dog
10. spade : club
(a) dig : kill (b) kangaroo : camel
(c) spices : food (d) book : knowledge
11. rebel : supporter
(a) optimism : pessimism
(b) difficult : impossible
(c) disgusting : tolerating
(d) death : life-imprisonment
12. rebate : discount
(a) spectator : onlooker (b) religion : faith
(c) pay : bonus (d) lend : borrow
13. fire : burn
(a) water : swim (b) drink : thirst
(c) war : destruction (d) king : justice

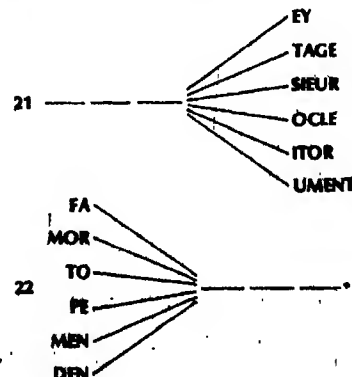
14. debate : discussion
(a) disease : suffering (b) stitch : cloth
(c) diagnosis : tests (d) paint : picture
15. carpenter : wood
(a) goldsmith : ornaments
(b) farmer : land (c) sculptor : stone
(d) manager : firm
16. decanter : wine
(a) cup : kettle (b) capsule : powder
(c) bed : sleep (d) soap : washing

What is common in the following?

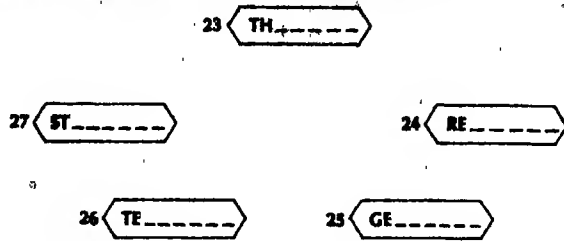
17. ulna : pelvis : tibia.
(a) They are muscles.
(b) They are organs of urinary system.
(c) They are bones.
(d) They are technical names for blood groups.
18. Willow : oak : pine
(a) They are grasses that grow in equatorial climate.
(b) They are summer flowers.
(c) They are autumn flowers.
(d) They are trees.
19. albatross : puffin : curlew.
(a) They are birds.
(b) They are imaginary birds.
(c) They are colourful butterflies.
(d) They are vultures.
20. porpoise : dolphin : shark.
(a) They are different types of man eaters found in water.
(b) They are fish.
(c) They are pet animals that live in water.
(d) They are types of tortoise.

LEXICAL ITEMS

Find out three-lettered sets for questions 21 and 22 that can be added before/after the following to form words.



Given below is a cycle of words, each next word starting with last two letters of the preceding word. Follow the clues and fill in the boxes with right words.



23. A place where dramas are staged.
24. Vendetta.
25. Technical name for making electricity from fuel.
26. Relaying television programmes.
27. Power.

Find out four-letter words for brackets in following questions which, if added to letters on right and left will form new words.

28. RAM () HER
29. TRANS (_ _ _) NT
30. IM () NER

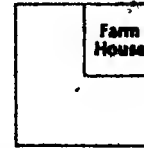
LOGICAL DEDUCTIONS

Four friends Arun, Bhushan, Charan and Dharma play two games each and each game, tennis, badminton, cricket and hockey is played by two players. Study the following statements and match the right parts.

Charan and Dharma do not play badminton.
Bhushan and Charan do not play tennis.
Arun and Dharma do not play cricket.

31. Arun (a) tennis
32. Bhushan (b) badminton
33. Charan (c) cricket
34. Dharma (d) hockey
35. A farmer has a square field. He has used a quarter

of it for constructing a farm house. Suggest a plan so that he can divide the remaining portion among his four sons in such a way that each one has an equal area and the same shape of land.



36. Seven letters A, B, C, D, E, F and G have been arranged in the following way:

- E and F have one letter between them.
- G is to the right of A.
- B is to the left of F.
- There is one letter between D and A.
- D is not G's neighbour.
- G and F have two letters between them.
- How are the letters arranged?



Four youngmen George, Mohammad, Surjeet and Hari belonging to Goa, Madras, Shimla and Haridwar went to Greece, Mexico, Spain and Hungary as ambassadors. Study the statements given below and match the right parts.

First letters of the names of ambassadors do not match with the first letter of the place they belong to or with the first letter of the name of the country to which they have gone.

The first letters of the name of the countries and of the places to which they belong are not common.

Surjeet did not go to Mexico or Hungary nor does he belong to Haridwar.

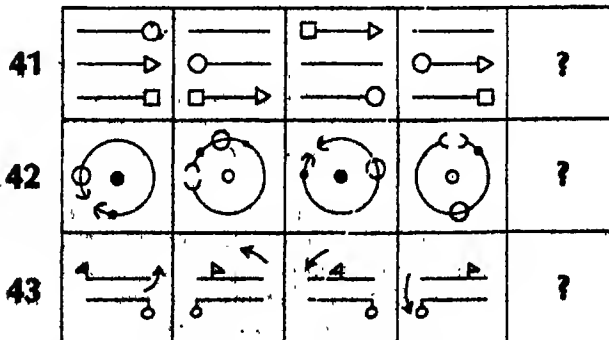
Hari does not belong to Goa.

37. George (a) Madras (A) Mexico
38. Mohammad (b) Goa (B) Greece
39. Surjeet (c) Shimla (C) Spain
40. Hari (d) Haridwar (D) Hungary

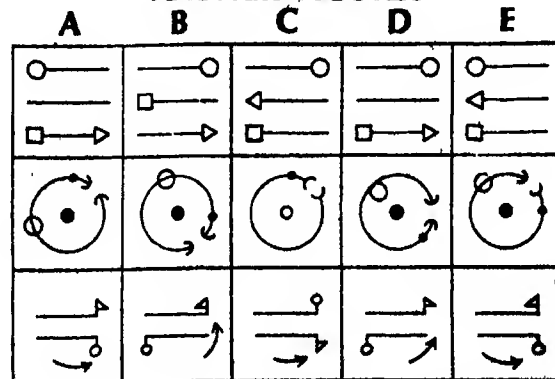
NON-VERBAL SERIES

Given below are two sets of figures, the Problem Figures and the Answer Figures marked A, B, C, D and E. Your task is to find out which of the Answer Figures would fit in place of the question-mark in the Problem Figures.

PROBLEM FIGURES



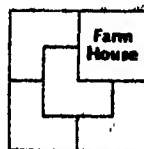
ANSWER FIGURES



44					?
45					?
46					?
47					?
48					?
49					?
50					?

ANSWERS AND EXPLANATIONS

- (c) All the other instruments are connected with hearing.
- (d) Simmer is a way of cooking while other terms are connected with light.
- (c) Greeks are nationals others are followers of religions.
- (a) All the others are gestures of endearment.
- (e) All the others are display of anger.
- (d) It is not a sea-port like others.
- (e) All the others are chess-men.
- (b) It is the only disease among fruits.
- (d) One grows into the other.
- (b) Just as spade and club both belong to cards in the same way these two are of the same category.
- (a) The words are opposites.
- (a) They mean almost the same.
- (c) One results in the other.
- (c) One is based on the other.
- (c) One shapes the other.
- (b) One contains the other.
- (c) 18. (d) 19. (a) 20. (b) 21. MON 22. TAL
- THEATRE 24. REVENGE 25. GENERATE
- TELECAST 27. STRENGTH 28. PANT
- LATE 30. PART 31. ab 32. bc 33. cd
- ad 35.
36. D C A G E B F
- dC 38. bD 39. aB 40. cA
- D. Circle moves down and up changing sides, square moves along three points and the triangle from top to bottom without changing sides.
- A. The main figure rotates clockwise with black dot shifting from one side to the other and the smaller circle sliding towards the other end. Opening in the circle and inner figure change alternately.
- E. Flag slides towards the other end changing direction; knob hops right and left and the arrow encircles the figure anti-clockwise.
- B. The whole figure rotates clockwise, smaller figures change alternately.
- B. One petal is added to right and left by turns, direction of leaves and figure inside change alternately.
- C. The bird is bending down its head slowly; beak, tail and feet change alternately.
- A. Tail is going upwards, ears come together and part alternately; one foot is lifted by turns.
- D. Peacock turns its head right and left and its crown changes accordingly; two feathers are added each time.
- C. Tail and horns change alternately, one leg is bent by turn and spot moves along three points.
- E. Diamond like figure and inverted triangle change places and the remaining three figures interchange places going round anti-clockwise.



TEST OF REASONING—III

SYLLOGISM

TYPE I

In the following statements, a situation has been explained in a few sentences followed by a conclusion. You have to say whether the conclusion:

- (a) necessarily follows from the statements.
- (b) is only a long drawn one.
- (c) definitely does not follow from the statements.
- (d) is doubtful, as the data provided is inadequate.

Note: Your answers should only be in the light of the statements given.

Statements:

- (1) 1. India is a secular State.
- 2. Communal riots in our country often take a heavy toll of life and property.

Conclusion: Secularism encourages people following different religions to fight for their survival.

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐

Statements:

- (2) 1. Most of the medical college students are doctors' children.
- 2. Sheela is a medico at the local medical college.

Conclusion: Her father or mother must be a doctor.

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐

Statements:

- (3) 1. The main source of rain in Rajasthan is the monsoon.
- 2. For the last three years, monsoon has been breaking in the State in the third week of July.

Conclusion: It will break in the third week of July this year as well.

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐

Statements:

- (4) 1. When INSAT IB is eclipsed, late night programmes are not telecast.
- 2. Late night programmes were not telecast yesterday.

Conclusion: INSAT IB was eclipsed.

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐

Statements:

- (5) 1. Tansen was a great musician.
- 2. The M.P. Government celebrates Tansen Festival every year.

Conclusion: The festival is chiefly concerned with music.

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐

Statements:

- (6) 1. Students eagerly go through the sports section as soon as they see the newspaper.

- 2. Those who have completed their studies look at the wanted column first.

Conclusion: Youngmen, after completing their studies, lose all interest in games and sports.

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐

Statements:

- (7) 1. Illiterate poor lot, willing to go to the Middle East for earning money are usually fooled by fake agencies.
- 2. These agencies give them passport and appointment letters.

Conclusion: The poor victims are not only left jobless but are deprived of their hard-earned money.

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐

Statements:

- (8) 1. Americans have sent a spacecraft to probe the planet Venus.
- 2. A Russian space-shuttle is trying to land on Jupiter.

Conclusion: These missions are aimed at capturing these planets.

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐

Statements:

- (9) 1. Poetry in old days was rhythmical and followed a code.
- 2. Modern poetry is proselike and has no rhyme or rhythm.

Conclusion: All modern poets are rebels.

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐

Statements:

- (10) 1. Judges do not allow emotions to dictate their judgement.
- 2. Mr A. Mukherji is a judge.
- 3. His son has committed a theft.

Conclusion: Mr A. Mukherji will not declare his son 'guilty'.

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐

TYPE II

In the questions given below, a statement is followed by implications I and II. Tick-mark (✓) your answers:

- (a) if only I implies.
- (b) if only II implies.
- (c) if both I and II imply.
- (d) if either I or II implies.
- (e) if neither I nor II implies.

Statement:

- 11. Trains generally get late.

Implications:

- I. The drivers are inefficient.
- II. The drivers have to wait for clearing signals.

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

Statement:

12. Bihar is often referred to as a notorious lawless State.

Implications:

- I. There is no State government.
 - II. Other States do not record any cases of lawlessness.
- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

Statement:

13. Many of the gallantry awards are given posthumously.

Implications:

- I. The government takes too long in declaring them.
 - II. The brave often lose their lives during the daring event.
- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

Statement:

14. Reservation has been extended for another ten years.

Implications:

- I. It will be extended further.
 - II. It will not be extended any more.
- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

Statement:

15. No country is absolutely self-dependent these days.

Implications:

- I. It is impossible to grow and produce all that a country needs.
 - II. Countrymen in general have become lazy.
- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

Statement:

16. National Aluminium Company has moved India from a position of shortage to self-sufficiency in the metal.

Implications:

- I. Previously, we had to import aluminium.
 - II. With this speed, it can soon become a foreign exchange earner.
- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

Statement:

17. In spite of the claim of the government of terrorism being under check, killing continues.

Implications:

- I. The terrorists have not come to an understanding with the government.
 - II. The government has been constantly lying.
- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

Statement:

18. Buddhists believe in non-violence.

Implications:

- I. Other religions believe in violence.
 - II. All the Buddhists are vegetarians.
- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

Statement:

19. Video libraries are flourishing very much these days.

Implications:

- I. People in general have got a video craze.

II. It is much cheaper to see as many movies as one likes on videos rather than going to the cinema hall.

(a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

Statement:

20. The T.V. staff deserve an applaud for showing booth capturing.

Implications:

- I. T.V. always aims at showing things in their true perspective.
 - II. People involved in booth-capturing have been recognized and are being tried by law.
- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

TYPE III

In making decisions about important questions, it is desirable to be able to distinguish between 'strong' arguments and 'weak' arguments so far as they are concerned with the question. 'Weak' arguments may not be directly related with the question, may be of minor importance or may be related to some trivial aspect of the question. Each question given below is followed by two arguments numbered I and II. You have to decide which of the arguments is 'strong' and which is 'weak'. Then decide which of the answers given below and numbered (a), (b), (c), (d) and (e) is the correct answer.

- (a) Only I is strong.
- (b) Only II is strong.
- (c) Both I and II are strong.
- (d) Either I or II is strong.
- (e) Neither I nor II is strong.

21. Are the Whites regretting freeing Namibia?

- I. Yes, with its vast reserves of diamonds, uranium and other precious minerals, it was like a hen that lays golden egg.
 - II. No, the Whites, themselves being democratic nation, had great respect for the freedom movement of Namibia and quitted the country happily.
- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

22. Will the coming generations be thankful to us for all the discoveries and inventions pertaining to N-Power?

- I. Yes, these discoveries and inventions will make their lives more easy, comfortable and luxurious.
 - II. No, they will curse us for making things so complicated and the hovering danger of a nuclear war.
- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

23. Is our Constitution perfect?

- I. Yes, everyone is satisfied with it.
 - II. No, it has certain flaws and according to the changing times, amendments are needed from time to time.
- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

24. Is democracy really a government of the people and for the people?

- I. Yes, this is how Lincoln described it.
 - II. No, the voters are often brain-washed or misled with false promises and the elected only care for their own interests.
- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

25. Are winters better than summers?

- I. Yes, one can put on as many clothes as one likes.
- II. No, we miss our Ice-creams and cold-drinks.

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐
26. Are old values being replaced by new ones?
- I. Yes, the new generation has its own way of thinking and living which is very different from the old values.
 - II. No, nothing could replace the good old values.
- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

TYPE IV

In questions given below, statements 1 and 2 are followed by implications I and II. Taking the statements explaining the situation to be true, mark your answers as under:

- (a) Only I is implicit.
- (b) Only II is implicit.
- (c) Both I and II are implicit.
- (d) Either I or II is implicit.
- (e) Neither I nor II is implicit.

Statements:

27. 1. Govt sanctions lots of money for the welfare programme of the economically depressed.
2. Only 20% of the actual money reaches them.

Implications:

- I. Most of the officials concerned are corrupt.
 - II. Postal charges are very high.
- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

Statements:

28. 1. Children are not allowed to play cricket in public parks.
2. They are not allowed to bring their bicycles in the park.

Implication:

- I. The authorities want the visitors to move about and sit in the park undisturbed.
 - II. Wickets, balls and bicycle are sources of nuisance to other visitors.
- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

Statements:

29. 1. Temples are often made of marble.
2. Marble is very costly.

Implications:

- I. Constructing temples is an extremely expensive affair.
 - II. Marble is not used in any construction other than that of temples.
- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

Statements:

30. 1. The first Indian station located at the Antarctica was named Dakshin Gangotri.
2. The eighth expedition has reached the Antarctica.

Implications:

- I. The members of the expedition will stay at the Dakshin Gangotri.
 - II. They will construct another station.
- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

Statements:

31. 1. Players who break previous records in a fair way get special prizes.
2. Player X broke the world record but was found to be under the influence of a prohibited drug.

Implications:

- I. He will get the special prize.
- II. He will not get it.

(a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

Statements:

32. 1. All cooks in hotels are men.
2. Men never cook at home.

Implications:

- I. Men only cook if it is a part of their profession.
- II. Women manage cooking for the family.

(a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

TYPE V

In questions given below, statements 1 and 2 are followed by conclusions I and II. The statements may appear at variance with the commonly accepted facts, but taking them to be true, mark your answers as under:

- (a) Only I follows.
- (b) Only II follows.
- (c) Both I and II follow.
- (d) Either I or II follows.
- (e) Neither I nor II follows.

Statements:

33. 1. Some bottles are plates.
2. Some plates are glasses.

Conclusions:

- I. Some glasses are bottles.
 - II. Some bottles are not glasses.
- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

Statements:

34. 1. All shirts are sweaters.
2. All sweaters are caps.

Conclusions:

- I. All sweaters are shirts.
 - II. All caps are sweaters.
- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

Statements:

35. 1. All stones are nuts.
2. Some nuts are chocolates.

Conclusions:

- I. Some stones are chocolates.
 - II. Some stones are not chocolates.
- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

Statements:

36. 1. Some diamonds are oranges.
2. All oranges are mangoes.

Conclusions:

- I. Some diamonds are mangoes.
 - II. Some diamonds are not mangoes.
- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

Statements:

37. 1. Only those planets are round which have no oxygen.
2. Only uninhabited planets have oxygen.

Conclusions:

- I. Uninhabited planets are not round.
 - II. Planets without oxygen have life on them.
- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

Statements:

38. 1. The Himalayas are the Alps and the Alps are the Nilgiris.
2. Europe is America and India is Australia.

Conclusions:

- I. The Nilgiris are in America.
- II. The Alps are in Europe.

(a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

Statements:

39. 1. Only those children wear caps who have no shoes.
2. Only those children have shoes who have no shirt.

Conclusions:

- I. Some children have all the three things
- II. Children who wear caps have shirts as well.

(a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

Statements:

40. 1. Ravi's mother Nisha's only maternal uncle Harish had only one sister.
2. Sushil is Harish's only nephew.

Conclusions:

- I. Nisha is Sushil's sister.
- II. Ravi is Sushil's cousin.

(a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

TYPE VI

At the end of the passage given below, some conclusions have been drawn. On the basis of the study of the paragraph, mark your answers as under:

- A. Definitely true
- B. Probably true.
- C. Can't say as the data provided is inadequate.
- D. Probably false.
- E. Definitely false.

Alternate rise and fall of waters of the ocean twice in the course of nearly twenty four hours is termed as tides. The tides are caused by the gravitational force exerted by the moon and to a lesser degree by the sun, on the earth. The tides do not always rise to the same height. At the time of the new and full moon, when the sun and the moon are in a straight line with the earth, the tides rise higher and are known as Spring Tides. Midway between new and full moon when the sun and the moon are at right angles as to their direction from the earth, tides are at the lowest height and are called Neap Tides.

41. At the time of Neap Tides, the earth, the moon and the sun are in a straight line.

A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐

42. Spring tides are higher than Neap Tides.

A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐

43. Daily tides rise to the same level.

A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐

44. Rivers falling into the sea are also affected by tides.

A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐

45. The gravity of the moon is higher than that of the sun.

A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐

ANSWERS AND EXPLANATIONS

1. (c) The conclusion drawn is baseless.

2. (b) The term 'most of the' makes the conclusion long drawn.

3. (b) The conclusion has been based on repeated occurrence only, hence long drawn.

4. (b) There could be some other reason.

5. (a) The conclusion is a natural one.

6. (c) There could be some other stronger reasons.

7. (a) The conclusion follows from the statements.

8. (c) Nothing has been stated about capturing of the planets.

9. (c) Experiments do not mark the person as a rebel.

10. (c) The conclusion is a wrong one.

11. (b)

12. (c)

13. (b)

14. (d)

15. (a)

16. (c)

17. (a)

18. (e)

19. (c)

20. (a)

21. (a)

22. (d)

23. (b)

24. (c)

25. (e)

26. (a)

27. (a)

28. (c)

29. (e)

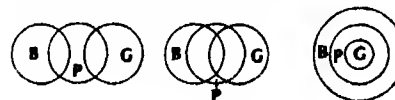
30. (d)

31. (b)

32. (c)

- 33 to 36. The best way to solve such questions is by drawing diagrams and reaching a definite conclusion.

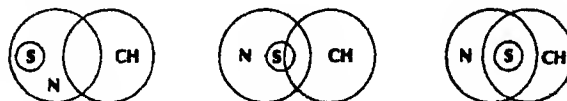
33. (b) There are following possibilities:



34. (e) There are two possibilities so we can't be very definite.



35. (d) There are following possibilities so it could be either.



36. (c) There is only one possibility.



37. (c)

38. (a)

39. (b)

40. (a)

41. E. They are at right angles.

42. A. The passage says so.

43. D. The passage denies such possibility but is not very explicit about daily tides.

44. B. When the sea rises, the rivers falling into it must swell as well.

45. C. The passage only hints at the exerted force and says nothing about the actual gravity.

Quantitative Aptitude

The questions given below were set in the Railway Recruitment Board examination held on the 12th November, 1989. We are grateful to Mohd Qaisar Azmi of Patna for sending these questions to us.

Q. 1-15. What should come in place of the question mark (?) in the following questions:

1. $3512 + 67 - 3195 + 285 = ?$
(a) 669 (b) 659 (c) 679 (d) 649
2. $68 \times 2\frac{1}{2} \times 2 \times \frac{1}{17} = ?$
(a) 10 (b) 2 (c) 20 (d) 200
3. $7.83 - 2.56 - 3.79 = ?$
(a) 1.48 (b) 10.48 (c) 14.80 (d) 1.048
4. $1253.60 - (9)^2 \times 9 = ?$
(a) 514.60 (b) 524.60 (c) 514.64 (d) 534.60
5. $\frac{18 \times 6 \times 6}{1.80} = ?$
(a) 36 (b) 3.6 (c) 360 (d) 3600
6. $13.5 + .27 = ?$
(a) .05 (b) 50 (c) .500 (d) 5
7. $\sqrt{\frac{?}{160}} = 1.5$

- (a) 240 (b) 57600 (c) 2400 (d) 5760
8. 40% of 105 = ?
(a) $66\frac{2}{3}$ (b) $33\frac{1}{3}$ (c) 42 (d) $12\frac{1}{2}$
9. 75% of 96 = ?
(a) 72 (b) 6 (c) 12 (d) 96
10. ?% of 108 = 72
(a) $12\frac{1}{2}\%$ (b) $10\frac{1}{2}\%$ (c) $33\frac{1}{3}\%$ (d) $66\frac{2}{3}\%$
11. $\frac{?}{7} = \frac{28}{?}$
(a) 16 (b) 19 (c) 34 (d) 14
12. $(0.03)^3 = ?$
(a) 0.000027 (b) 0.27 (c) 0.027 (d) 0.9
13. $\frac{.24 \times .24 - .23 \times .23}{47}$
(a) .0001 (b) .01 (c) .47 (d) .0003
14. $(.06)^2 + (.02)^2 = ?$
(a) .040 (b) .004 (c) .400 (d) .0004
15. $\frac{\sqrt{1.21}}{0.11} + \frac{(.12)}{\sqrt{.0081}} = ?$
(a) $12\frac{1}{3}$ (b) $\frac{3}{4}$ (c) $1\frac{1}{3}$ (d) $11\frac{1}{3}$

16-20. Study the following table and answer the questions given below.

Number of Students Appeared (APP), Qualified (QUAL) in five Subjects over the Years

Years	ENG		MATH		GEO		HISTORY		SCIENCE	
	APP	QUAL	APP	QUAL	APP	QUAL	APP	QUAL	APP	QUAL
1981	196	84	250	35	160	42	140	30	150	40
1982	212	34	160	30	212	50	150	40	160	35
1983	160	40	180	45	115	35	210	60	170	45
1984	190	35	250	60	180	60	240	70	185	50
1985	200	47	300	140	200	70	260	80	190	55

16. What was the percentage of "Qualified" to "Appeared" in English in the year 1983?

- (a) 40 (b) 25 (c) 20 (d) 30 (e) None

17. What was the percentage increase in the number of students "Appeared" from 1981 to 1985 in MATH?

- (a) 25 (b) 50 (c) 20 (d) 40 (e) None

18. In which subject was there a continuous rise in both number of students "Appeared" and "Qualified" over

the years?

- (a) English (b) Math (c) Geo (d) History
(e) Science

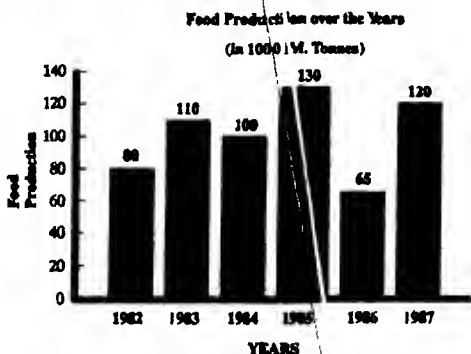
19. In which year was the number of students "Qualified" 25% of the number of students "Appeared" in the same subject?

- (a) 1981 (b) 1982 (c) 1983 (d) 1984
(e) 1985

20. In which year was the number of students "Qualified" in History two hundred per cent of the number of students "Qualified" in English in the same year?

- (a) 1981 (b) 1982 (c) 1983 (d) 1984
(e) 1985

21-25. Study the following Graphs and answer the questions that follow.



21. What was the approximate percentage of increase in production from 1982 to 1983?

- (a) 60 (b) 30 (c) 110 (d) 130 (e) 40

22. In which year was the production 50% of total production in 1982 and 1987?

- (a) 1983 (b) 1984 (c) 1985 (d) 1986
(e) None

23. In the case of how many years was the production below average production of the given years?

- (a) one (b) two (c) three (d) four
(e) None

24. What was the percentage drop in the production from 1985 to 1986?

- (a) 100 (b) 50 (c) 65 (d) 40 (e) None

25. If the production in 1988 was above the average production of the given years, which of the following could be the minimum production in the year 1988?

- (a) 1,05,000 (b) 1,00,900 (c) 1,20,000
(d) 1,30,000 (e) 1,08,000

26. If the radius of a circle is diminished by 10%, the area is diminished by:

- (a) 36% (b) 20% (c) 19% (d) 10%

27. Find the smallest number which is divisible by 12, 15, 20 and is a perfect square.

- (a) 480 (b) 180 (c) 900 (d) 1000

28. The flowers in a basket become double after every minute. In 60 minutes the basket is full. After how many minutes the basket would be half filled?

- (a) 30 (b) 45 (c) 59 (d) 58

29. A man's wages was reduced by 50%. Again the reduced wages increased by 50%. What is his loss?

- (a) 15% (b) 50% (c) 25% (d) 30%

30. Find out the capital required to earn a monthly interest of Rs 600 at 6% simple interest.

- (a) Rs 1,00,000 (b) Rs 1,20,000 (c) 1,10,000
(d) Rs 1,30,000

31. A sum of money lent out at simple interest amounts to Rs 2,520 in 2 years and Rs 2,700 in 5 years. Find

the rate of interest.

- (a) 3% (b) 4% (c) $2\frac{1}{2}\%$ (d) 5%

32. Two taps can separately fill a cistern in 6 and 7 minutes respectively. If the taps are opened turn by turn, each for a minute, find the time taken by them to fill the cistern.

- (a) 5 min. (b) $5\frac{2}{3}$ min. (c) $6\frac{3}{7}$ min. (d) $6\frac{1}{4}$ min.

33. If 20 men and 8 boys complete $\frac{1}{2}$ work in 17 days, in how many days can 40 men and 16 boys complete the work?

- (a) 34 days (b) 17 days (c) 40 days (d) 27 days

ANSWERS

1. (a) 2. (c) 3. (a) 4. (b) 5. (c) 6. (b)
7. (b) 8. (c) 9. (b) 10. (d) 11. (d) 12. (a)
13. (a) 14. (b) 15. (d) 16. (b) 17. (a) 18. (d)
19. (c) 20. (d) 21. (e) 22. (b) 23. (c) 24. (b)
25. (b)

26. (c) Suppose radius = 70

$$\text{Area} = \pi r^2 \text{ or } \frac{22}{7} \times 70 \times 70 = 15400$$

$$10\% \text{ reduction in radius} = 70 - 7 = 63$$

$$\text{Area} = \frac{22}{7} \times 63 \times 63 = 12474$$

$$\text{Difference} = 15400 - 12474 = 2926$$

$$\text{Percentage reduction of area} = \frac{100 \times 2926}{15400} = 19\%$$

27. (c) 28. (c) 29. (c)

30. (b) Interest for 1 month = Rs 600
for 1 year = Rs 7200

$$\text{Amount} = \frac{S.I. \times 100}{r \times t} = \frac{7200 \times 100}{6 \times 1} = 1,20,000$$

31. (c) Rs 2700 - Rs 2520 or Rs 180 is the interest for 3 years

$$\text{Interest for 1 year} = \text{Rs } 60$$

$$\text{Interest for 2 years} = \text{Rs } 120$$

$$\text{Amount} = 2520 - 120 = \text{Rs } 2400$$

$$\text{Rate} = \frac{\text{Int} \times 100}{P \times t}$$

$$\text{Or} = \frac{60 \times 100}{2400 \times 1} = \frac{5}{2} = 2\frac{1}{2}\%$$

32. After filling the cistern alternately for 3 minutes each, the balance left to be filled by the 1st tap

$$(\text{by turn}) = 1 - \frac{3}{7} = \frac{4}{7}$$

The second tap fills $\frac{1}{6}$ in 1 mt.

$$\text{It will fill } \frac{4}{7} \text{ in } \frac{4}{7} \times 6 = \frac{24}{7} \text{ mts}$$

It has already worked for 3 mts

$$\therefore \frac{24}{7} - 3 = \frac{3}{7} \text{ mt more are required to fill the balance (by the 1st tap)}$$

Thus total time taken

$$= 6 \text{ mts (3 mts each)} + \frac{3}{7} \text{ mt} = 6\frac{3}{7} \text{ mts.}$$

33. (b)

ENGLISH LANGUAGE

Questions 1 to 40 in this feature were set in the Railway Recruitment Board Examination held on the 12th November, 1989.

We are grateful to Mr Mohd Qaisar Azmi of Patna for sending this question paper to us.

Q 1-5. Read the following passage carefully and choose the best answer to each of the questions out of the four alternatives.

There are some men who seem to be always on the lookout for trouble and, to tell the truth, they are seldom disappointed. Listening to such men one would think that this world is one of the stormiest and most disagreeable places. Yet, after all it is not such a bad place and the difficulty is often in the man who is too thin-skinned. On the other hand, the man who goes about expecting people to be like himself, kind and brotherly, will be surprised at the kindness he meets even in the most unlikely quarters. A smile is apt to be met with a responsive smile while the sneer is just as apt to provoke a snarl. Men living in the same neighbourhood may live vastly different lives. But it is not the neighbourhood which is quarrelsome, but the man within us. And we have it in our power to change our neighbourhood into a pleasant one by simply changing our own ways.

1. "___ they are seldom disappointed." The statement denotes that such men:

- (a) do not have to face any trouble.
- (b) welcome difficulties as a morale booster.
- (c) generally do not fail to come across troubles.
- (d) manage to keep unruffled in the face of discomforts.

2. The author's own view of the world is that it is:

- (a) an unpleasant and turbu-

ent place.

- (b) one of the loveliest and quietest places.
 - (c) one's own excessive sensitivity that makes it a bad place.
 - (d) a sordid place for those who suffer in life.
3. "On the other hand ___ unlikely quarters." The statement shows that people's reaction to our attitude is:
- (a) often adverse
 - (b) generally indifferent
 - (c) mainly favourable
 - (d) surprisingly responsive
4. Which of the following is opposite in meaning to the expression "thin-skinned" in the passage?
- (a) Awkward
 - (b) Insensitive
 - (c) Obstinate
 - (d) Intelligent
5. The passage is about:
- (a) the world and what one makes of it.
 - (b) our disagreeable and hostile world.
 - (c) a kindly and pleasant world.
 - (d) our indifferent and unresponsive world.

Q. 6-15. Select the most suitable word from the given words to fill in the blanks to make the sentence meaningfully complete:

6. An army major ranks ___ a captain and a colonel.

- (a) among
- (b) between
- (c) through
- (d) over

7. Mothers are sometimes blind to the faults of ___ children.

- (a) his
- (b) her
- (c) its
- (d) their

8. He had to wait until his sister's train arrived, ___ to take her to

his house.

- (a) as if
- (b) so as
- (c) so much so
- (d) as much as

9. Jadu left his bag ___ the telephone and then went home.

- (a) besides
- (b) beside
- (c) at
- (d) around

10. And why did the police suspect you? It just does not make any ___ to me.

- (a) point
- (b) reason
- (c) sense
- (d) truth

11. I have often ___ why he went to live abroad.

- (a) thought
- (b) wondered
- (c) surprised
- (d) puzzled

12. Two years ___ passed since my father died.

- (a) had
- (b) were
- (c) have
- (d) are

13. The journey may be made by sea or ___ by road.

- (a) alternately
- (b) conversely
- (c) entirely
- (d) alternatively

14. The whole plot was ___ well managed.

- (a) nicely
- (b) exquisitely
- (c) perfectly
- (d) exceedingly

15. All his decisions duly testify ___ his truthfulness and honesty.

- (a) for
- (b) about
- (c) to
- (d) of

Q. 16-25. In the following passage, there are blanks each of which has been numbered. The

numbers are printed below the passage and against each, 4 words are suggested one of which fits the blank appropriately. Find out the appropriate words:

Everyone considers food, shelter, clothing and medical care to be the basic needs for a comfortable living. Even the government accepts this and 16 to provide all these. But very 17 people know that energy required for 18 and heating is also one of 19 basic needs. We are all aware 20 our country has achieved self-sufficiency in 21 but we have to go a 22 way yet in order to achieve 23 in the case of energy. Man 24 always been in search of more 25 in order to free himself from the burden of manual labour. He has invented machines to do his work.

16. (a) lies
(b) loves
(c) hates
(d) promises

17. (a) little
(b) some
(c) few
(d) any
18. (a) cooking
(b) living
(c) eating
(d) sleeping

19. (a) theirs
(b) such
(c) a
(d) our

20. (a) this
(b) that
(c) of
(d) in

21. (a) food
(b) resources
(c) weapons
(d) heating

22. (a) some
(b) all
(c) long
(d) hard

23. (a) pleasure
(b) joy
(c) much
(d) self-sufficiency

24. (a) have
(b) had
(c) has

- (d) was
25. (a) machines
(b) oil
(c) heat
(d) labour

26-35. Read each sentence to find out whether there is any error in it. The error if any will be in one part of the sentence. The number of that part is the answer.

26. From all accounts I learn (1) that he is the best and honest (2) member of the new cabinet (3).

27. At present both the civil (1) and criminal powers (2) are vested in the Head of the District (3).

28. The recent census tells us (1) that the population of Calcutta is greater (2) than any other town in India (3).

29. Many a hunter (1) were present in the jungle (2) to kill the man-eater (3).

30. It is a strange desire, (1) to seek power (2) and to loose liberty (3).

31. Hardly had I left my house (1) that it began to rain (2) cats and dogs (3).

32. Our is the (1) only country in the world (2) that can (3) boast of unity in diversity (4).

33. One (1) does not vote against (2) his (3) own party (4).

34. Will (1) you do to (2) me (3) a favour? (4).

35. He looked (1) as though (2) she (3) was fainting (4).

36-40. Rearrange the following five sentences A, B, C, D, E in the proper sequence so as to form a meaningful paragraph, then answer the questions given below them.

(A) There was a heavy down-pour.

(B) While he was passing through a forest, a robber aimed his gun at him but without any effect.

(C) Thus he escaped death and rode away safely.

(D) A merchant was riding home.

(E) The rains had damped the gun powder.

36. Which of the following should be the first sentence?

- (i) A (ii) B (iii) C
(iv) D (v) E

37. Which of the following should be the second sentence?

- (i) A (ii) B (iii) C
(iv) D (v) E

38. Which of the following should be the third sentence?

- (i) A (ii) B (iii) C
(iv) D (v) E

39. Which of the following should be the fourth sentence?

- (i) A (ii) B (iii) C
(iv) D (v) E

40. Which of the following should be the last sentence?

- (i) A (ii) B (iii) C
(iv) D (v) E

ANSWERS

1. (c) 2. (c) 3. (d) 4. (b)
 5. (a) 6. (b) 7. (d) 8. (a)
 9. (b) 10. (c) 11. (b) 12. (c)
 13. (d) 14. (d) 15. (c) 16. (d)
 17. (c) 18. (a) 19. (d) 20. (b)
 21. (a) 22. (c) 23. (d) 24. (c)
 25. (b)
 26. (2) and most honest.
 27. (2) and the criminal.
 28. (3) than that of.
 29. (2) 'was' instead of were.
 30. (2) 'to' is not needed; hence only 'lose liberty' is required.
 31. (2) 'when' instead of 'that'.
 32. (1) 'ours' instead of 'our'.
 33. (2) 'one's' instead of 'his'.
 34. (2) 'to' is not required.
 35. (2) 'as if' instead of 'as though'.
- There was a heavy downpour. A merchant was riding home. While he was passing through a forest, a robber aimed his gun at him but without any effect. The rains had damped the gun powder. Thus he escaped death and rode away safely.
36. A
37. D
38. B
39. E
40. C

EVERYDAY SCIENCE

★ Tick-mark the correct answer out of the choices given:

1. A car on which there is no accelerating force:
 - (a) must be at rest
 - (b) may be in motion
 - (c) is speeding up
 - (d) is slowing down
2. The function of the moderator in a nuclear reactor is:
 - (a) to slow down the neutrons
 - (b) to speed up the neutrons
 - (c) to absorb the neutrons
 - (d) to moderate the fissions
3. The moon does not fall into the earth despite the attraction between them because of:
 - (a) the fixed orbit in which the moon rotates
 - (b) the sun's opposing attraction
 - (c) the centrifugal reaction
 - (d) a gravitational repulsion
4. Practically all the energy used by man is:
 - (a) mechanical
 - (b) chemical
 - (c) electromagnetic
 - (d) traceable back to the sun
5. Among the following, the most suitable for use in ordinary thermometers is:
 - (a) hydrogen
 - (b) helium
 - (c) water
 - (d) alcohol
6. When egg white is coagulated, the protein is said to be:
 - (a) hydrolysed
 - (b) fermented
 - (c) denatured
 - (d) condensed
7. An example of a thermosetting plastic is:
 - (a) Lucite
 - (b) Nylon
 - (c) Polyethylene
 - (d) Bakelite
8. Of the following, which is the purest form of iron?
 - (a) cast iron
 - (b) pig iron
 - (c) wrought iron
 - (d) steel

9. The temperature at which a sample may exist in all three phases in equilibrium is known as:

- (a) melting point
 - (b) boiling point
 - (c) triple point
 - (d) sublimation point
10. Which of the following is the most effective particle in effecting nuclear reactions?
- (a) an electron
 - (b) a proton
 - (c) a neutron
 - (d) a positron

11. To determine if a dog is rabid, investigators must examine its:

- (a) brain
- (b) heart
- (c) liver
- (d) stomach

12. A frog whose brain has been destroyed is still able to scratch himself. This is an example of a response called:

- (a) instinct
- (b) simple reflex
- (c) conditioned reflex
- (d) voluntary act

13. The greatest amount of parental care is given by organisms that:

- (a) produce many offspring
- (b) produce few offspring
- (c) reproduce asexually
- (d) have external fertilisation

14. Hormones are chemical substances that:

- (a) carry on digestion
- (b) fight bacteria
- (c) stimulate the activity of organs
- (d) prevent deficiency diseases

15. Normal mentality in children depends upon a sufficient secretion of:

- (a) adrenalin
- (b) thyroxin

- (c) insulin
- (d) secretin

16. What has probably been the most important reason for the great increase in the average length of life since the 18th century?

- (a) reduction of deaths from infectious diseases
- (b) conquest of cancer and heart disease
- (c) improvement in methods of food production
- (d) general improvement in housing

17. Children may be protected by the injection of "quadruple antigen" against:

- (a) diphtheria, small pox, tetanus and leukaemia
- (b) diphtheria, measles, leukaemia and typhoid
- (c) diphtheria, whooping cough, tetanus and polio
- (d) diphtheria, small pox, measles and tuberculosis

18. A substance that is composed of a dead virus treated in such a manner that it does not produce a disease is called:

- (a) an antibody
- (b) an antitoxin
- (c) a toxin
- (d) a vaccine

19. Booster shots for polio are given in order to:

- (a) stimulate the body to produce more anti-bodies
- (b) produce passive immunity to the disease
- (c) provide antitoxins that the body is unable to produce
- (d) introduce antibiotics directly into the circulatory system

20. Disregarding Rh factors, a person with blood group A who needs a transfusion is most safely given blood from a donor whose genes for blood group are:

- (a) Ai (AO)
- (b) Bi (BO)

300 ♦ MARCH '90 ♦ COMPETITION MASTER

GENERAL AWARENESS

The questions given below were asked in the Central Government's Class-II Officers' examination held on October 1, 1989.

We are grateful to Mr Santosh Kumar Sinha of Chhatinakandi P.O. (West Bengal) for sending these questions to us.

1. Silly point is associated with:

- (a) Football ✓
- (b) Polo
- (c) Cricket
- (d) Hockey
- (e) Water Polo

2. How much blood does a normal person has?

- (a) 4 to 7 litres
- (b) 8 to 10 litres
- (c) 10 to 15 litres
- (d) 15 to 18 litres
- (e) 20 to 25 litres

3. The maximum number of Anglo-Indians who can be nominated to Lok Sabha by the President is:

- (a) 3
- (b) 2
- (c) 5
- (d) 4
- (e) 6

4. What percentage of earth area does water occupy?

- (a) 70%
- (b) 65%
- (c) 75%
- (d) 80%
- (e) 90%

5. Narrative poem of heroic deed is called:

- (a) elegy
- (b) ballad
- (c) fable
- (d) parody
- (e) epic

6. Geet Sethi is associated with:

- (a) Billiards ✓
- (b) Cricket
- (c) Kho-Kho
- (d) Rowing

7. Pakistan's nuclear power

plant is situated at:

- (a) Islamabad
- (b) Kahuta
- (c) Lahore
- (d) Karachi

8. ECG is done to diagnose an ailment connected with:

- (a) Heart
- (b) Lungs
- (c) Brain
- (d) Kidney
- (e) Liver

9. M.S. Swaminathan has earned international reputation in which of the following fields?

- (a) Nuclear Physics
- (b) Agriculture ✓
- (c) Dairy Development
- (d) Space Research

10. Who among the following players set a record, winning four major tennis tournaments, in 1988?

- (a) Martina Navratilova
- (b) Mats Wilander
- (c) Steffi Graf
- (d) Ivan Lendl
- (e) Boris Becker

11. "Kuchipudi" is a dance style originated from:

- (a) Tamil Nadu
- (b) Kerala
- (c) Andhra Pradesh
- (d) Manipur
- (e) Rajasthan

12. In the 34th National Film Festival of India, 1987, Kamal Hassan got the best actor award for acting in the film:

- (a) Ek Duje Ke Liye
- (b) Nayakan ✓
- (c) Apoorva Sahadorakale
- (d) Mondram Pyaree

13. Which capital is wrongly matched:

- (a) Hanoi-Vietnam
- (b) Ankara-Greece
- (c) Moscow-U.S.S.R.
- (d) Kabul-Afghanistan
- (e) Beirut-Lebanon

14. Who first held the view that the earth is a sphere?

- (a) Aristotle
- (b) Pythagoras
- (c) Newton
- (d) Galileo

15. Which of the following is wrongly matched:

- (a) Mother Teresa-Nehru Award
- (b) P.T. Usha-Arjuna Award
- (c) R.K. Laxman-Magsaysay Award
- (d) Amrita Pritam-Jnanpith Award
- (e) Dr Jagjit Singh-Kalinga Award

16. Which of the following is correctly matched:

- (a) Sarat Chander Chatterjee-Hindi
- (b) Subramaniam Bharati-Telegu
- (c) Leo Tolstoy-German
- (d) Victor Hugo-English
- (e) Amrita Pritam-Punjabi

17. Rajya Sabha can delay the money bill upto:

- (a) 5 days
- (b) 1 month
- (c) 3 months
- (d) 14 days

18. Award given by Indian Adult Education Association for promoting adult education is:

- (a) Nehru Literacy Award
- (b) Sardar Patel Award
- (c) Bharatendu Award
- (d) Kalinga Award

19. Religious order established by Mother Teresa is called:

- (a) Sisters of Charity
- (b) Mothers of Charity
- (c) Missionaries of Charity
- (d) Messengers of Love
- (e) Missionaries of Humanity

20. The present U.N. Secretary General is:

- (a) U Thant
- (b) Javier Perez de Cuellar
- (c) Kurt Waldheim
- (d) Trygve Lie

21. The dispute over Siachen

OBJECTIVE-TYPE QUESTIONS

Glacier area belt is between:

- (a) China and India
- (b) Afghanistan and Pakistan
- (c) India and Pakistan
- (d) China and Pakistan
- (e) Bhutan and Nepal

22. Which of the following rivers fall in the Arabian Sea?

- (a) Godavari
- (b) Kaveri
- (c) Narmada
- (d) Ganga
- (e) Saraswati

23. In which year was the Reserve Bank of India established?

- (a) 1935
- (b) 1947
- (c) 1949
- (d) 1950
- (e) 1951

24. Salim Ali is associated with:

- (a) Horology
- (b) Entomology
- (c) Ornithology
- (d) Parasitology
- (e) Biology

25. The first summit of NAM was held at Belgrade, the capital of:

- (a) Brazil
- (b) Poland
- (c) Yugoslavia
- (d) Hungary
- (e) Bulgaria

26. "Reuter" is the News Agency of:

- (a) U.S.A.
- (b) U.S.S.R.
- (c) U.K.
- (d) India
- (e) France

27. The International Court of Justice is located at:

- (a) Geneva
- (b) Rome
- (c) New York
- (d) The Hague
- (e) Paris

28. The present strength of the U.N. is:

- (a) 165
- (b) 159
- (c) 142
- (d) 171
- (e) 154

29. Who was the head of the Enquiry Commission of Indira Gandhi assassination case?

- (a) R. S. Pathak

(b) R.S. Sarkaria

(c) M.P. Thakkar

(d) Ranganath Mishra

(e) P.N. Bhagwati

30. Who was chairman of the drafting committee for the Constitution of India?

- (a) Dr Rajendra Prasad
- (b) B.R. Ambedkar
- (c) Sardar Patel
- (d) Jawahar Lal Nehru
- (e) Maulana Abul Kalam Azad

31. The author of "Politics" is:

- (a) Plato
- (b) Aristotle
- (c) Socrates
- (d) Karl Marx
- (e) Rousseau

32. Who is the odd one?

- (a) Alla Rakha
- (b) Bhim Sen Joshi
- (c) Amjad Ali Khan
- (d) Ravi Shankar

33. Who among the following had gone on a *padyatra* in 1989 to foreign countries?

- (a) Baba Amte
- (b) Sunil Dutt
- (c) Amitabh Bachchan
- (d) N.T. Rama Rao
- (e) None of these

34. "Silent Valley" is in the news because:

- (a) it is a multipurpose hydro-electric project
- (b) of border dispute between two States
- (c) establishment of this project will harm environment
- (d) water dispute between two States

35. In 1931, Mahatma Gandhi had signed a pact with whom?

- (a) Lord Wavell
- (b) Lord Curzon
- (c) Lord Canning
- (d) Lord Irwin
- (e) Lord Linlithgow

36. Who developed the theorem "The sum of the three angles of any triangle is equal to two right angles"?

- (a) Newton
- (b) Pythagoras
- (c) Euclid
- (d) Archimedes

37. A decibel is a unit measuring:

(a) light

(b) heat

(c) sound

(d) noise

(e) volume

38. Which one of the following is different from others?

- (a) BKU
- (b) CITU
- (c) AITUC
- (d) BMS
- (e) INTUC

39. The busiest ocean route in the world is:

- (a) Suez Canal
- (b) Palk Strait
- (c) Panama Canal
- (d) North Atlantic route
- (e) Cape route

ANSWERS

1. (a)
2. (a) The average human male has about 11 pints (6.2 litres) of blood in his body.
3. (b)
4. (a) $\frac{7}{10}$ of earth's surface is covered with ocean water.
5. (e) 6. (a) 7. (b) 8. (a)
9. (b) 10. (c) 11. (c) 12. (b)
13. (b)
14. (b) It was held by Pythagoras as early as the 6th century B.C. Aristotle, in the 4th century B.C., supported it by such arguments from observation as the circular form of the earth's shadow seen in the moon during an eclipse.
15. (e) 16. (e) 17. (d) 18. (a)
19. (a)
20. (b) (Trygve Lie was the first Secretary General of the UN).
21. (c) 22. (c)
23. (a) RBI was established on April 1, 1935.
24. (c) Ornithology is the science dealing with the study of birds.
25. (c) 26. (c) 27. (d) 28. (b)
29. (c) (Ranganath Mishra had enquired into the riots in the wake of Mrs Indira Gandhi's assassination).
30. (b) 31. (b)
32. (b) He is a vocalist. Others are instrumentalists.
33. (b) 34. (c) 35. (d) 36. (b)
37. (c)
38. (a) It is a peasants' Union. (Bharati Kisan Union). The others are Trade Unions.
39. (d)

THE EXAMINER'S GUESS QUESTIONS

Q. Where was the 21st International Film Festival of India held?

Ans. Calcutta.

Q. Which countries are members of the COMECON?

Ans. COMECON or Council for Mutual Economic Assistance was founded by USSR, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Poland and Romania. Later admissions were Albania (ceased participation in 1961), GDR, Mongolia, Cuba and Vietnam.

Q. Where is the world's largest and most powerful telescope being built?

Ans. Mount Mauna Kea in Hawaii.

Q. Name the capital of the Soviet Republic of Azerbaijan? Why was it in the news in the month of January 1990?

Ans. Baku. Riots had broken in Baku in the month of January 1990 and hundreds of people were killed in battles between security forces and nationalists demanding an Islamic republic.

Q. Who is the Chairman of the Atomic Energy Commission of India?

Ans. Dr P.K. Iyengar.

Q. Who was the Chief guest at the 1990 Republic Day function of India?

Ans. Mr Aneroodh Jugnauth, Prime Minister of Mauritius.

Q. Where were the 14th Commonwealth Games held? Which country will host the 1994 Games?

Ans. Auckland, New Zealand. The 1994 Games will be held in Canada.

Q. With what is Operation Renderpest Zero associated?

Ans. The Operation Renderpest Zero programme aims at strengthening Veterinary services for livestock disease control with active collaboration of the European Economic Community (EEC). This would help

India become totally free from the dreaded cattle plague.

Q. Which company has bagged the contract to implement the Haldia Petrochemical Project?

Ans. Tata Tea Ltd.

Q. Name the Indian weightlifter, representing India in 14th Commonwealth Games, who was accused of taking drugs?

Ans. Subrata Kumar Paul.

Q. Name the noted columnist who has declined to accept the Padma Bhushan award announced in 1990?

Ans. Mr Nikhil Chakravarty.

Q. Name the Indian whose name has been included in the Guinness Book of World Records for his record breaking performance in ship-running?

Ans. Mr V. Karunakaran of Southern Railways. He covered a distance of 16 km in 58 minutes. The earlier record holder, Kenoslis of USA, had covered the same distance in 71 minutes 54 seconds.

Q. Who is the Chairman of 100-member new National Integration Council (NIC)?

Ans. Prime Minister V.P. Singh. NIC members include the deputy Prime Minister and five cabinet ministers (home, finance, HRD, welfare and I & B), chief ministers of all States and UTs (which have legislatures), leaders of eight national parties and 17 regional parties recognised by the Election Commission and having at least one representative in either house of Parliament, 40 eminent public figures—two representatives of business, three of commissions like Minority Commission, thirteen from the media and five women.

The Council will function as a forum for effective initiatives and interactions on issues of national concern, review issues relating to

national integration and make recommendations thereon.

Q. What record was made by Richard Hadlee of New Zealand in First Cricket Test Match of 1990 series against India?

Ans. He became the first bowler to capture 400 wickets in Test Cricket. His 400th victim was Sanjay Manjrekar.

The break-up of his test wickets is—123 against Australia, 81 against England, 57 against India, 51 against Pakistan, 51 against the West Indies and 37 against Sri Lanka.

Q. Which district in India has been declared as the first totally literate district of India?

Ans. Ernakulam district in Kerala.

Q. Name the country which had won maximum medals in the XIV Commonwealth Games?

Ans. Australia.

Q. Name the winners of the Durand Cup Football Tournament?

Ans. East Bengal.

Q. What does the abbreviation START stand for?

Ans. Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty (between Soviet Union and USA).

Q. With which country is Prince Sihanouk associated?

Ans. Cambodia.

Q. What does Article 6 of the Soviet Union's Constitution relate to?

Ans. Article 6 of the Constitution of U.S.S.R. places powers of complete rule in the hands of the Communist Party.

Q. What amount of military aid has been pledged by USA to Pakistan for the fiscal year beginning October 1, 1990?

Ans. \$240 million.

Q. With which scandal are the words Tulip & Lotus associated?

Ans. Bofors gun scandal.

SPORTS

COMMONWEALTH GAMES

Opening Ceremony

Next in importance and representation to the Olympics, the 14th Commonwealth Games got off to a spectacular start at Auckland on January 24. These Games have previously been held as follows:

Hamilton (Canada) 1930, White City (London) 1934, Sydney (Australia) 1938, Auckland (New Zealand) 1950, Vancouver (Canada) 1954, Cardiff (Wales) 1958, Perth (Australia) 1962, Kingston (Jamaica) 1966, Edinburgh (Scotland) 1970, Christchurch (New Zealand) 1974, Edmonton (Canada) 1978, Brisbane (Australia) 1982 and Edinburgh (Scotland) 1986.

54 Nations Participate: The Games, with more than 2,000 competitors and officials from 54 nations, watched by capacity 35,000 spectators in the stadium and millions around the globe, were declared open by Britain's Prince Edward, deputising for his mother Queen Elizabeth. The turn-out was a triumph for the Commonwealth following the 1986 Edinburgh Games, which were wrecked by a 32-nation Africa-led boycott over Britain's refusal to impose economic sanctions on South Africa.

New Zealand, celebrating its 150 years, gave a lesson in its rich history and colourful traditions. A swirling mass of blue sheets represented the Pacific as Maories reacted to their navigator ancestors 1,000 years ago in canoes before a symbolic galleon marked the arrival of first European in the 17th century.

The Baton: The ceremony reached a climax with the arrival of a baton sent by Queen Elizabeth with a message to the Games. Some 14,000 runners carried the baton around New Zealand before it was borne across Auckland Mountain in a fleet

of Maori war canoes. Olympic gold medallists Mark Todd—riding his horse Chatsma—and former middle distance star Pater Snell then delivered the baton to the Prince.

The detailed results of the games will be given in the APRIL 1990 issue.

—Editor.

BADMINTON

Men's singles: Vimal Kumar beat Parveen Kumar, 15-8, 15-2.

Women's singles: Madhumita Bisht beat Deepti Thanekar, 11-2, 11-2.

Men's doubles: Vikram Singh and Partho Ganguly (Gujarat) beat Sanjay Sharma and Rajeev Bagga (Maharashtra) 15-8, 15-3.

Women's doubles: Madhumita Bisht and Sudha Padmanabhan (BAl) beat Manjusha Pawan Gadghkar and Deepti Thanekar (BAl), 15-5, 15-3.

Mixed doubles: Madhumita Bisht and Harjeet Singh (Railways) beat Anirudh Roy and G. Vijaya, 15-5, 15-6.

BASKETBALL

National Championships

Railways retained the double crown, winning the men's and women's titles of the 40th National Basketball Championships at Jaipur.

CHESS

International Tournament

Soviet Master Leonid Yudasin, with nine points from 11 games, won the inaugural Goodricke International Chess Tournament and the prize of Rs 30,000 at Calcutta on January 16. Ruban Vadin, also of the USSR, finished runners-up, with eight points.

CRICKET

Vijay Merchant Trophy

Hosts Bombay retained the West Zone Vijay Merchant Trophy

(under-15) cricket title by virtue of their first innings lead over Maharashtra in the three-day final which ended in a draw at Bombay on June 9.

Scores:

Bombay: 481 for six declared and 70 for one.

Maharashtra: 300.

Duleep Trophy

Mohammad Azharuddin celebrated his nomination as India's captain for the New Zealand tour with a power-packed score of 184 runs, enabling South Zone to regain the Duleep Trophy with a 322-run victory over Central Zone in the final of the tournament which concluded at Hyderabad.

Scores:

South Zone: 448 and 527 for six.

Central Zone: 345 and 308.

Rohinton Baria Trophy

Delhi University carried away the Rohinton Baria Trophy when they defeated holders Guru Nanak Dev University, Amritsar, by four wickets in the Inter-University Cricket Championship final at New Delhi on January 9.

Vinoo Mankad Trophy

Last year's runners-up Haryana won the Vinoo Mankad Trophy when they defeated Tamil Nadu by 85 runs in the final of the Schools National Cricket Championship at Lucknow on January 8.

Scores:

Haryana: 254 for three in 40 overs.

Tamil Nadu: 169 for nine.

India-Pak (under-19) Tests

First Test: India notched up a thrilling three-wicket win over Pakistan in the first (under-19) Test at New Delhi on January 7.

Scores:

Pakistan: 215 and 290.

India: 370 and 137 for seven.

Second Test: A brilliant knock of

82 by opener M. Jamshed and a defiant 89 by Naseer Ahmed helped Pakistan draw the second (under-19) Test against India at Kanpur.

Scores:

Pakistan: 164 and 264 for five.

India: 353 for nine declared.

Third Test: The third Pak-India (under-19) Test ended in a draw at Rourkela on January 24.

Scores:

India: 178 and 203 for five.

Pakistan: 276 and 202 for nine declared.

Women's National Championship

Railways won the 14th Senior Women's National Cricket Championship defeating Karnataka by 144 runs in the final at Gorakhpur.

Scores:

Railways: 276 in 87 overs.

Karnataka: 132 in 58.1 overs.

Australia-Pak Tests

First Test: Australia took a 1-0 lead in the three-Test series against Pakistan after winning the first Test by 92 runs at Melbourne on July 16. Needing 429 runs for victory, Pakistan were bowled out for 336 in their second innings, Ijaz scoring his second Test century (121).

Scores:

Australia: 228 and 312.

Pakistan: 107 and 336.

Second Test: The second Test between Australia and Pakistan ended in a draw at Adelaide on January 21. Dean Jones earned the distinction of scoring a century in each of the two innings. He remained unbeaten with 121, following his 116 in the first innings.

Scores:

Pakistan: 257 and 387.

Australia: 341 and 233 for six.

FOOTBALL

Nehru Cup

In an all-Latin American tussle, Olympia of Paraguay lifted the Jawaharlal Nehru Soccer Cup, defeating Gimmsia De La Plata of Argentina by 1-0 in an exciting final at Calcutta.

HOCKEY

Sriram Trophy

Border Security Force (Jalandhar) annexed the handsome Sriram Trophy and a cash prize of Rs 10,000 when they accounted for citymates Punjab Police 2-1 in the final of the All-India Hockey Tournament at Kota.

Women's National Championship

Holders Railways defeated their traditional arch rivals Punjab by 2-1 to wrest the Women's National Hockey Championship title for the 10th consecutive year at Chandigarh.

K.D. Singh Babu Trophy

Indian Airlines won the 11th K.D. Singh Babu Trophy Hockey Tournament when they defeated Air India 1-0 at Lucknow on January 3.

SQUASH

Asian Championships

Mir Zaman (Pakistan), with powerful shots and clever backhand crosscourt placements, won the fifth Asian Squash Championships defeating compatriot Farhan Samiullah 9-8, 10-8, 9-2 in the final at Calcutta on January 22. In the women's final, Mah Li Liam of Singapore, the holder, was too good for Dawan Olsen of Hong Kong, winning by 9-2, 9-2, 9-3 in just 20 minutes.

TABLE TENNIS

National Championships

Twentytwo-year-old Sujav Ghorpade of Petroleum Sports Control Board became the new men's champion defeating five-times title-holder Kamlesh Mehta of Maharashtra by 21-16, 22-20, 21-17 and carried away the coveted Maharaja Pithapuram Cup.

Niyoti Roy (PSCB) regained the women's singles title and the Travancore Cup, defeating B. Bhuvaneshwari of Tamil Nadu by 21-11, 21-15, 21-15. Niyoti completed a double when, in partnership with Monalisa Barua (PSCB), she defeated Bhuvaneshwari and M.S. Mythili of Tamil Nadu by 22-20, 21-19 in the women's doubles for the Travancore Cup.

Karnataka's C.R. Anand and G.K. Vishwanath claimed the Yuvraj Pithapuram Cup beating Tamil Nadu's Chetan P. Baboo and N. Ravichandran in the men's doubles.

TENNIS

Australian Open Championships

Top-seeded world No. 1 Ivan Lendl of Czechoslovakia won the second straight singles title at the Australian Open Tennis Championships which concluded at Melbourne on January 28. Lendl was leading 4-6, 7-6, 5-2 when Stefan Edberg of Sweden was forced to withdraw because of a back injury suffered in the quarter-final match against Pat Cash of Australia.

Twenty-year-old West German Steffi Graf continued her dominance of women's tennis by collecting her third successive singles title. In the final, she defeated American teenager Mary Joe Fernandez 6-3, 6-4 in 80 minutes.

Leander Paes of India was beaten in the boys' singles final by Dirk Dier of West Germany by 6-4, 7-6. Magdalene Maleeva of Bulgaria won the girls' crown.

Junior Hard Court Championships

Seventeen-year-old Gaurav Natekar recovered splendidly from a one-set deficit to down Vinod Ramchandran of Maharashtra 2-6, 6-4, 6-1 and lift the boys' singles crown and a prize money of Rs 10,000 in the National Junior Hard Court Tennis Championships at Madras on January 8. Madras girl Aradhana Reddy did well to ward off a stiff challenge from Maharashtra's Divya Merchant to claim the under-18 singles crown. Winning by 6-4, 5-7, 7-6, she carried away the prize money of Rs 7,000.

Team Titles: Maharashtra boys did well to claim the boys' team title with a 2-1 win over Delhi. The girls' team event was called off due to rain.

VOLLEYBALL

Junior National Tournament

Uttar Pradesh won the boys' and Kerala the girls' titles in the 16th Junior National Volleyball Championships, which concluded at Jammu on January 14.

Current General Knowledge

ABBREVIATIONS

ILY: International Literacy Year.

NSC: National Security Council.

SQUID: Super-conducting Quantum Interference Device.

AWARDS

Republic Day Awards, 1990

Bharat Ratna: Not awarded to anyone.

Padma Vibhushan: Dr Abul P.J.A. Abdul Kalam (Space and missile technology), Hyderabad; Dr Bhabatosh Datta (education-economics), Calcutta; Mr Semmangudi R. Srinivas Aiyar (carnatic music-vocal), Madras; Mr Shivputra S. Komkali alias Kumar Gandharva (Hindustani classical music-vocal), Madhya Pradesh; Mr T.N. Chaturvedi (public affairs), New Delhi; Dr V.S.R. Arunachalam (metallurgical and technological research), New Delhi.

Padma Bhushan: 25 eminent personalities were given this award. Prominent among them were: Mr N. Ram (journalism), Madras; Mr Arun Shourie (journalism), New Delhi; Mr H.N. Mukherjee (literature-English and Bengali), Calcutta; Mr Inder Mohan (social work), New Delhi; Pandit Jasraj (Indian classical music-vocal), Bombay; Pandit Nikhil Ghosh (instrumental music-tabla), Bombay; Mr R. Malhotra (public life), Bombay.

Noted columnist Nikhil Chakravarty declined to accept the Padma Bhushan award.

Padma Shri: There were 69 awardees. Prominent among them were: Mr Behram Contractor alias Busybee (journalism), Bombay; Mr Gulshan R. Rai (yachtmanship), Bombay; Mr Kamal Hassan (film acting), Madras; Mr Om Puri (stage and film acting), Bombay; Dr Rajinder Singh (typewriting), Shimla; Mr Sarad Joshi (journalism), Bombay; Mr T.N. Shenoy (swimming), Bombay; Mr V.K. Chopra (jour-

nalism), Jalandhar; Mrs Leela Samson (dance-Bharatnatyam), New Delhi; Ms Silverine Swer (social work), Shillong.

Gallantry Award, 1990

Maha Vir Chakra: Second Lieutenant Rajeev Sandhu of 7 Assam has been awarded the Maha Vir Chakra (posthumous) for displaying conspicuous courage and valour in the face of the militants during IPKF operations in Sri Lanka.

On July 19, 1988 second Lt Rajeev Sandhu was leading a convoy of two vehicles from Madurang Keni Kulam to Mangani for collection of dry rations when his convoy was attacked by LTTE militants with rockets and heavy volume of fire of AK-47 rifles. Due to a direct hit by the rocket both his legs were completely mutilated. The heavy volume of fire found its mark elsewhere on his body.

Despite being severely injured he kept on firing on militants blunting every effort by them from coming anywhere near his fallen comrades or their weapons. He made the supreme sacrifice of his life in keeping with the traditional martial spirit of the Indian Army.

Moortidevi Award, 1988

The 1988 Moortidevi award has been given to renowned Hindi author, Vishnu Prabhakar for his play *Satta Ke Aappaar*.

The award consists of a citation plaque, a Shrutadevi Saraswati statue and Rs 51,000 cash.

Borlaug Award, 1987 and 1988

The 1987 award has been given to Mr Deb Roy, conservator of Forests, Assam for his outstanding contribution to building the Manas and Kaziranga sanctuaries for conservation of flora and fauna.

The 1988 award has gone to Dr P.V. Shenoi, Special Secretary (Agri-

culture) for his contribution by way of systems management, particularly directed and relevant to small and marginal farmers. He is the first IAS officer to win this prestigious award.

The award has been instituted by Coromandel Fertilisers in honour of Norman Borlaug, the universally respected agricultural scientist who was closely associated with the wheat programme in India.

G.D. Birla Award, 1990

The second G.D. Birla International award for outstanding contribution to Humanism has been given to Sir Hermann Bondi, President of the British Humanist Association.

The award has been given in recognition of his crusade against imposition of religious dogma on society.

The award carries a prize of Rs 5 lakh.

Kalidas Award, 1990

The 1990 Kalidas award, which is the highest national award in the field of classical dance, has been given to the distinguished Manipuri dancer, Guru Bipin Singh.

The award has been instituted by the Government of Madhya Pradesh and carries an amount of Rs one lakh in cash and a plaque of honour.

International Gandhi Award for Leprosy

Dr V. Wardekar and Dr M.F. Lechat have been given the award for their work to eradicate leprosy.

The award carries a cash prize of Rs one lakh.

Birla Centre Nobel Talent Search Award

The B.M. Birla Science Centre, Hyderabad, is instituting a Nobel Talent Search award of Rs one lakh per year, starting from 1990, for young Indian scientists. The award is for outstanding contribution in the

fields of mathematics, physics, chemistry and biology.

BOOKS

Satta Ke Aarbaar

Satta Ke Aarbaar is a play written by renowned Hindi author, Vishnu Prabhakar who has been awarded the 1988 Moortidevi award. The theme is one of conflict between the two sons of Lord Rishabhadev, the first Jain "Tirthankar" of the present aeon. The elder son, Bharat, was a Chakravarti (emperor) who annexed all the neighbouring kingdoms except that of his younger brother, Bahubali. The play is a searching critique of the psychology of power.

DAYS; YEARS

Literacy Year launched

The Prime Minister, Mr. V.P. Singh, formally launched the "International Literacy Year" in India on January 22, 1990.

The UN general assembly has proclaimed 1990 as the International Literacy Year (ILY) to intensify efforts to spread literacy and education in the world.

The objectives of the ILY include increasing action by member States to eliminate illiteracy or functional illiteracy, particularly through education in rural areas and urban slums; increasing public awareness of the "scope, nature and implications" of illiteracy as well as of the means and conditions for combating it.

The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) has been made the lead organisation for the observance of the year. It has prepared an action plan to achieve universal literacy by the year 2000.

In India the action programme envisages nation-wide activities to create public understanding on the problem of illiteracy, mobilise resources, and accelerate the pace and quality of programme implementation by increased participation of students, teachers, youth, employers, trade unions, industrial and mining works, women and other organisations in literacy work.

PERSONS

Prabhakar, Vishnu

Mr Vishnu Prabhakar is the winner of 1988 Moortidevi award for his play Satta Ke Aarbaar.

He was born on June 21, 1912 at Muzaffarnagar in Uttar Pradesh. He began his career as a *Daftari* and went on to become a clerk and subsequently an accountant until he finally took up literary work full time.

He has authored six novels, twenty story collections, twelve plays, thirteen biographies and several travelogues. He is best known for his work *Awara Mashih*, a work which has been translated into most Indian languages. The book is based on the life of the famous Bengali novelist Sarat Chandra Chattopadhyaya.

RESEARCH

Superconductor sans copper developed

Asuperconducting compound without copper, earlier thought indispensable to initiate the superconductivity effect, has been developed by scientists from the University of Virginia in the USA.

The compound consists of barium, lead, thallium and bismuth oxide and superconducts at nine Kelvin (-264°C). The low temperature superconductor was developed a few months ago by a team lead by Dr Zafar Iqbal.

Dr Iqbal said, the lead-based compound, due to the tetragon structure, made current flow possible in all directions as against copper-based compounds where current flowed only in one direction.

He said if it was possible to raise the present nine Kelvin transient temperature (at which superconductivity sets in) to somewhere near the 110K-125K of copper-based compounds, then the new compound could have enormous applications, thanks to its current flow property.

Research on the compound is at present important from the point of view of gaining a better understand-

ing of the superconductivity phenomena. The superconducting effect in the compound was possibly due to the presence of bismuth, but this was subject to verification.

Experiments by other groups on superconducting compounds using substitutes for copper like antimony and potassium have shown the onset of superconductivity at 13K, four K and even at 30K, holding out much promise for such compounds.

Meanwhile, magnetic signals from the human heart have been mapped for the first time using a superconducting device operating at liquid nitrogen temperature. The device called SQUID (Superconducting Quantum Interference Device) when used as a supplement to the currently used electrocardiogram will become a major tool in the diagnosis of heart diseases. This is one realistic application of the high temperature superconductor in the medical field.

The magnetic cardiogram obtained with SQUID would enable doctors to detect heart disorders such as arrhythmias that may not be possible with the electrocardiogram which gives only electrical signals. The SQUID cardiogram is especially suited to observe disorders of foetal heart as their magnetic signals are much stronger than those of the mother.

The sensitivity of the SQUID device is 10,000 times higher than the signals from the human heart and hence the device can be used without special shielding of the patient.

Another major medical application of SQUID is in diagnosing epileptic disorders. By putting several SQUIDS on the human brain, the brain's magnetic field can be mapped to identify the focus of the fit. SQUIDS would enable neurosurgeons to be more successful in brain operations to treat epilepsy.

Indian Superconductivity device soon: India will soon join the select league of nations that have fabricated demonstration SQUIDS (superconducting "quantum interference devices") which could lead to the

making of superconductors with applications in medicine, geology and a host of other fields. These demonstration SQUIDS would be developed into "working" SQUIDS in about two years.

National Physical Laboratory (NPL) director S.K. Joshi said the demonstration SQUIDS were being developed under a project of the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) in which three other laboratories were collaborating. These were the Regional Research Laboratory (RRL), Trivandrum, the Central Electronics Engineering Research Institute, Pilani, and the Central Glass and Ceramics Research Institute, Calcutta, with the NPL as the nodal agency.

The SQUIDS have been made with the yttrium-barium and thallium-cuprate systems. These SQUIDS were highly sensitive and worked at temperatures ranging from 77 to 100K (minus 196° to 187°C). The Indian team is the first to deposit the yttrium-barium superconductor on silicon wafers used in micro-electronics.

Fabrication of ceramic superconductors with high current density has been identified as one of the priority areas for future research. The researchers would also be working to develop superconductors for all electro-technical applications.

Analgin can cause adverse reaction

The popular pain-killer analgin, which is sold under different brand names by various companies, can cause adverse reactions in a high percentage of cases, a recent study shows.

A collaborative study by doctors at the Adverse Drug Reaction (ADR) monitoring cell of SDM Hospital, Jaipur, and the Christian Medical College (CMC), Vellore, said the drug led to a fatal reaction in one case.

Of the 446 reports of adverse drug reactions received by the ADR cell in Vellore, in one year, 35 were due to analgin intake. In five cases, the reaction was severe, while in 23 it was moderate.

The commonest reaction was

red rashes all over the body with or without itching and swelling. Severe drug reactions included anaphylactic shock, wheezing, pulmonary oedema (excessive fluid in the lungs) and fits.

The high rate of adverse reactions due to this drug calls for a reappraisal of the free sale of the drug. If not ban on it, the doctors say.

In a recent report, the Voluntary Health Association of India (VHAI) has also appealed for a ban on the drug in the country on the grounds that "the risks associated with this drug far outweigh any benefit derived from its use", and "safer, cheaper adequate substitutes are available."

The report quotes extensively from studies by the food and drug administration, USA, the German Federal Health Office and the Central Pharmaceutical Affairs Council, Japan, in support of its appeal.

The drug is banned or severely restricted in several other countries, including Pakistan and Nepal.

Confidence is inherited

Some people are born with the belief that they are masters of their own lives, others feel they are at the mercy of fate. New research shows that part of those feelings are in the genes.

Psychologists have long known that people confidence in their ability to control their destinies are more likely to adjust well to growing old than those who feel that they drift on the currents of fate.

Two researchers who questioned hundreds of Swedish twins, report that such confidence, or lack of it, is partly genetic and partly drawn from experience. They also found that the belief in blind luck—a conviction that coincidence plays a big role in life—is something learned in life and has nothing to do with heredity.

The research was conducted at the Karolinska Institute—better known as the body that annually awards the Nobel Prize for medicine—by Nancy Pedersen of the institute and Margaret Gatz, a professor of

psychology at the University of Southern California, in Los Angeles.

People who are confident of their ability to control their lives have an "internal locus of control" and have a better chance of being well-adjusted in their old age.

An "external locus of control" believing that outside forces determine the course of one's life, has been linked to depression in latter years.

SPACE RESEARCH

Space shuttle Columbia

American space shuttle, Columbia, rocketed skyward on January 9, 1990 on a daring ten-day mission to chase down and bring back a huge satellite which was falling towards earth.

On January 12, 1990 the crew grabbed the falling bus-sized satellite with a flick of a 12-metre robot arm. Mission specialist Bonnie Dunbar, peering at a television monitor, guided the arm to the long duration exposure facility (LDEF) and grabbed the 11-tonne satellite by a short grapple post on its side.

The space shuttle was forced to stay in orbit an extra day because of fog at its desert landing site. The shuttle finally landed on January 20, 1990 thus ending the longest shuttle mission yet. This mission surpassed the old record, set by Columbia in 1983, by 11 hours and 38 minutes.

MISCELLANY

Exam age for civil services raised

The Government has decided to increase the upper age limit for the civil services examinations from 26 to 28 years for general candidates. Candidates belonging to the SC and ST category will have the usual age concession of five years beyond the upper age limit.

It has also been decided to increase the number of chances from three to four for general candidates. As regards the SC and ST candidates, there would be no limit of the chance.

These decisions would be effective from 1990.

Improve Your Word Power

1. **associate:** (a) employee (b) competitor (c) colleague (d) executive.
2. **illusion:** (a) daze (b) reference (c) diagram (d) deception.
3. **supplant:** (a) to bury (b) stand by (c) displace (d) work under.
4. **scrupulous:** (a) conscientious (b) persistent (c) distrustful (d) careless.
5. **calumny:** (a) slander (b) chance (c) prejudice (d) infamy.
6. **fetid:** (a) doomed (b) dangerous (c) stinking (d) disease-breeding.
7. **propitiate:** (a) to evict (b) assist (c) praise (d) appease.
8. **ancillary:** (a) temporary (b) subordinate (c) standing (d) strange.
9. **rendezvous:** (a) hill-resort (b) crossing (c) public park (d) meeting place.
10. **incongruous:** (a) silly (b) inappropriate (c) indelicate (d) dissimilar.
11. **paragon:** (a) geometric figure (b) model (c) statue (d) judge.
12. **predatory:** (a) violent (b) predictable (c) self-sustaining (d) plundering.
13. **hedonist:** (a) pleasure-seeker (b) recluse (c) fatalist (d) realist.
14. **deleterious:** (a) neglected (b) intoxicating (c) noxious (d) eliminating.
15. **synthesis:** (a) hypothesis (b) survey (c) analysis (d) composition.
16. **vicissitude:** (a) danger (b) change of fortune (c) complexity (d) evil.
17. **turgid:** (a) bloated (b) muddy (c) unruly (d) concealed.
18. **subversion:** (a) subservience (b) destruction (c) absorption (d) subordination.
19. **insouciant:** (a) unmindful (b) diffident (c) cutting (d) impertinent.
20. **egregious:** (a) varied (b) selfish (c) extraordinary (d) social.

ANSWERS

1. **associate:** (c) colleague; fellow worker.
—Mr. Lai has been my associate in lateral business enterprises since 1974.
2. **illusion:** (d) deception; false or misleading impression.
—Unfortunately to the sceptics the concept of a corruption-free society is not a reality but an illusion.
3. **supplant:** (c) to displace; to take the place of.
—After the speech making the Chairman was supplanted by his rival.
4. **scrupulous:** (a) conscientious; meticulous.
—Scrupulous workers endeavored to earn their livelihood against heavy odds.
5. **calumny:** (a) slander.
—Yellow press is replete with calumny; thus on issue of India's foreign policy, being a fact correct.
6. **fetid:** (c) stinking; foul-smelling.
—The dead body was thrown into the fetid pond.
7. **propitiate:** (d) to appease; conciliate.
—In ancient times, people propitiated the gods by going to temples and making offerings.
8. **ancillary:** (b) subordinate; auxiliary.
—Ancillary services have been provided around Karnataka state government's new Mahatma Gandhi Institute.
9. **rendezvous:** (c) meeting place.
—The two friends had a rendezvous in the forest.
10. **incongruous:** (b) inappropriate; out of place.
—The incongruous combination of the two styles was not appreciated.
11. **paragon:** (b) model.
—The paragon of virtue is one who is perfect in all respects.
12. **predatory:** (d) plundering.
—Certain predatory tribes prefer to inhabit border areas of a country.
13. **hedonist:** (a) pleasure-seeker.
—A hedonist believes only in the philosophy of eat, drink and be merry.
14. **deleterious:** (c) noxious; harmful.
—After research, many deleterious drugs have been withdrawn from the market.
15. **synthesis:** (d) composition; combination of parts.
—India stands for a happy synthesis of many faiths and cultures.
16. **vicissitude:** (b) change of fortune; fluctuation in conditions.
—One should always be prepared to face the vicissitudes of life.
17. **turgid:** (a) bloated; swollen; inflated.
—Writers, with a turgid literary style, are not very popular among readers.
18. **subversion:** (b) destruction or overthrow.
—The civilised society cannot allow the subversion of its social order by extremists.
19. **insouciant:** (a) unconcerned.
—The government must not remain insouciant for long regarding problems of the people.
20. **egregious:** (c) extraordinary; standing out; remarkable.
—The egregious agencies are the ones which are not concerned with the welfare of the people.

Appointments Etc.

Appointed; Elected Etc.

Peter Pethart. He has been appointed Prime Minister of Czechoslovakia.

Andrei Lukanov. He is the new Prime Minister of Bulgaria.

Sam Nujoma. He will be the Executive President of Independent Namibia.

Dr Raja Ramanna. He has been appointed Minister of State for Defence in the Union Cabinet.

Jagmohan. He has been re-appointed Governor of Jammu & Kashmir.

Raghunath Reddy. Governor of Tripura.

Krishna Kant. Governor of Andhra Pradesh.

Yunus Saleem. Governor of Bihar.

D.L. Mandal. Governor of Haryana.

B. Rachaiiah. Governor of Himachal Pradesh.

Dr Saroop Singh. Governor of Kerala.

Mahmud Ali. Governor of Madhya Pradesh.

C. Subramaniam. Governor of Maharashtra.

Swaraj Kaushal. Governor of Mizoram.

D.P. Chattopadhyaya. Governor of Rajasthan.

Adm R.H. Tahilani. Governor of Sikkim.

B. Satyanarayan Reddy. Governor of Uttar Pradesh.

Y.D. Sharma. Governor of Orissa.

Mrs Chandravati. Lt Governor of Pondicherry.

Lt Gen R.S. Dayal. Lt Governor of Andaman and Nicobar Islands.

Nurul Hasan. Governor of West Bengal.

Dr P.K. Iyengar. He has been appointed Chairman of the Atomic Energy Commission of India.

R.N. Malhotra. He has been re-appointed Governor of the Reserve Bank of India.

Resigned

Gen K.V. Krishna Rao. Governor of Jammu & Kashmir.

Ms Kumudben Joshi. Governor of Andhra Pradesh.

J. Pahadia. Governor of Arunachal Pradesh.

H.A. Barari. Governor of Haryana.

Vice Adm R.K.S. Chaudhi. Governor of Himachal Pradesh.

Mrs Ram Dulari Sinha. Governor of Kerala.

Mrs Sarla Grewal. Governor of Madhya Pradesh.

Capt W.A. Sangma. Governor of Mizoram.

Sukhdoo Prasad. Governor of Rajasthan.

S.K. Bhatnagar. Governor of Sikkim.

Sultan Singh. Governor of Tripura.

Mohammed Usman Arif. Governor of Uttar Pradesh.

T.V. Rajeswar. Governor of West Bengal.

Nurul Hasan. Governor of Orissa.

K. Brahmananda Reddy. Governor of Maharashtra.

T.S. Oberoi. Lt Governor of Andaman & Nicobar Islands.

Dr Farooq Abdullah. Chief Minister of Jammu & Kashmir.

Dr Karan Singh. India's Ambassador to USA.

Georgi Atanassov. Prime Minister of Bulgaria.

Distinguished Visitors

Jigme Singye Wangchuk. King of Bhutan.

Aneroodh Jugnauth. Prime Minister of Mauritius.

Michel Rocard. Prime Minister of France.

Philippe Nallet. Agriculture and Forestry Minister of France.

Hans Peter Reppik. Minister of State for Economic Cooperation, West Germany.

Mohammed Humza Ali Zubaidi. Minister for Transport and Communication, Iraq.

Sahabzada Yakub Khan. Foreign Minister of Pakistan.

Died

Ms Maltreyi Devi. One of India's leading literary figures, she was 75.

R.R. Dwarka. Veteran Gandhian and

former Union Information and Broadcasting Minister. He was 96.

Osho Rajneesh. One of the most controversial Indian guru in modern times.

Ava Gardner. Hollywood actress. She was 67.

EVENTS

JANUARY

14-13 terrorists among 18 killed in Punjab.

16-Ethnic violence defies control in Baku, Capital of Soviet Republic of Azerbaijan, 56 people, mostly Armenians, are killed.

19-Jammu & Kashmir is placed under Governor's rule.

21-Over 35 people are killed in firing by police on violent mob in Srinagar.

22-National Literacy Year is launched by Prime Minister V.P. Singh.

-Yugoslavia's Communist Party decides to renounce its monopoly on power after 45 years of unchallenged rule.

24-Mr Harminder S. Sandhu, General Secretary of the All India Sikh Students Federation is shot dead at his residence in Amritsar.

24-14th Commonwealth Games open in Auckland, New Zealand.

25-4 Air Force men are killed by militants in Srinagar.

FEBRUARY

2-S. Africa lifts ban on African National Congress (ANC).

5-Indian troops thwart bid by 4000 Pakistan nationals to cross border in R.S. Pura area of Jammu & Kashmir.

7-More than 37 people are killed in riots in Karachi, Pakistan.

-The Soviet Communist Party votes to end its monopoly on power.

-9 terrorists are among 22 people killed in Punjab.

9-Soviet Union drops any link between START (Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty) and Star Wars.

11-Nelson Mandela is released by the government of S. Africa after 27 years in prison.

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MAY 1990

LEADER IN THE NATION

page 10
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A LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

Special Issues of C.M.

Dear Reader,

In response to the insistent plea of thousands of our readers, we have decided to bring out two special issues (May and June, 1990) for the benefit of candidates appearing in the IAS Preliminary and Bank recruitment examinations which are due to be held soon. Each of these issues will have, besides our usual features, 16 extra pages brimming with carefully compiled material presented in an easily digestible form. This would facilitate a quick and thorough revision of the subject which all candidates want to make in order to ensure success.

The pattern of the answers given in these issues is the objective type. We felt that the traditional and all-too-familiar form of detailed answers to each question would not only consume considerable space but also restrict the wide range of material we intended to cover. Intensive coverage of History and Geography has been planned for the May issue, and of Current Affairs in the June issue. Together, these two issues of the magazine will provide to the examinees just what they urgently need.

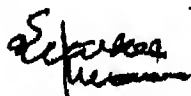
We chose an experienced team of experts for this special assignment. They have made a fine job of it. The candidates will find all that they require in a capsule form.

Since our aim has always been to be of the utmost service to our esteemed readers, we have decided, as an earnest of our goodwill, not to raise the price of these special issues despite the substantial increase in size (16 extra pages) and the cost of the paper besides, the other expenditure we have incurred in connection with this enterprise.

We feel confident that the candidates will find these special issues indispensable for scoring well in the highly competitive examinations.

With best wishes,

Yours sincerely,



Much the Same

Doubting Thomases who forewarned many months ago that whichever party is in power at the Centre, the face and character of the Indian administration would remain the same, have been proved right after all. The National Front and its allies won the general elections last November and the Assembly polls in February this year on the plank of a change from the stinking set-up that had become sickeningly familiar during the five preceding years. The people in general were also very keen on effecting a change. But the first four months and more of the National Front Government have failed to bring about the refreshing and eagerly sought change-over to a cleaner, efficient and popular regime.

Things are much the same; there is the usual inefficiency, indecision, internal party strife, the trend towards favouritism and preference for expediency rather than implementation of ideology and strict observance of the high principles which the leaders so consistently advocated. No wonder there is considerable disillusionment among most categories of common people, and even among the younger political workers who feel that they have been badly let down.

There is the all-too-familiar love of power and of the plush seats, the same game of musical chairs, and, what is worse, the distressing disregard of the people's interests. The all-out effort to provide cosy berths, including seats in legislatures, for close friends and near relations, nieces and nephews. There are many instances of Janata Dal leaders having gone out of their way to secure the party ticket for their favourites. It is learnt that one of the topmost ruling party leaders manoeuvred to secure party nominations for the Rajasthan Assembly for no fewer than 11 of his relations, sacrificing in the process sound principles of selection of nominees on merit as well as the claims of far more deserving candidates. The General Secretary of the Janata Dal himself conceded at the end of March this year that due to mutual distrust, intense jealousies and mental reservations among the ruling party leaders the hopes of the people had been betrayed. There would have been few problems if the party leadership had respected the well-understood norms of political conduct.

The struggle for political survival in the States where ramshackle, hastily improvised alliances have become the rule, is no less disgraceful. There are bloated, giant-sized ministries, totally disproportionate to the size of the legislature, the population of the State, and wholly unjustified by the limited financial resources. These reflect the hunger for material and other gains of the politicians, regardless of the burden on the people they are supposed to serve.

True, there is no constitutional restriction on the size of the ministry in each case, but a wholesome principle, accepted some time ago by several political parties, was that the size of the ministry should not exceed one-tenth of the legislature's strength. One instance of blatant violation of this principle is the unwarranted expansion of the Meghalaya ministry; no fewer than 23 of the 32-member ruling alliance (in a House of 60) have been given ministerial posts, obviously to win their political support.

Moreover, the ministries in some States (especially the smaller ones), have only wafer-thin majorities. Instability and political horse trading, which are all too familiar and imply toppling games, would become inevitable. This means that much time of the top leaders will be wasted in the task of political survival. The real duty of ensuring efficient administration and promoting social welfare will consequently be relegated to the background.

An outspoken Congress leader from the South likened Mr Rajiv Gandhi to Lord Shiva, with a serpent around his neck. In front sat Ganesh and Kartikeya. The vehicle of Ganesh was a mouse while that of Kartikeya was a peacock. The Lord's consort had a bull as her vehicle. But these four animals are deadly enemies, Mr Gandhi was warned. The serpent is keen to swallow the mouse; the peacock wants to kill the serpent and the bull wants to kill the peacock. To complete the mythological analogy, the party boss was advised to wake up and open his "third eye".

The message was clear, and not for the Congress alone. Which are the political parties in this country that do not have a serpent, a mouse, a bull and a peacock? And don't the leaders need to wake up and become vigilant against foul stings by the coterie members around them?

READERS' FORUM

FLASH-POINT IN KASHMIR

With reference to the cover story in the April issue of "C.M.", I would suggest that total political and administrative isolation of the Kashmir Valley in winter when the administration migrates to Jammu must end. While terrorism needs to be curbed, there should be, side by side, a determined effort to prove to the people in the Valley that they stand to gain by remaining in the Indian Union, that this democracy can ensure for them a better life with more autonomy. People should have prompt access to the mechanisms for redressal of complaints and grievances.

Old myths and shibboleths must be shed once for all to resolve the Kashmir tangle. There can be no going back now, nor can there be a second partition of India on the basis of religion. This would strain national unity and undermine the integrity of both countries.

Khalilabad

Qumruddin

J & K used to have a volatile situation during the peak winter seasons, mainly due to non-mobility of tourists and thereby non-availability of employment opportunities. But this time the situation has worsened so much that attaining normalcy in the near future has become difficult. The militants indulging in subversive activities in the Valley and their supporters should seriously consider the following points:

(a) Can "Azad Kashmir" bring more employment opportunities and improve the overall economic prospects with the limited resources?

(b) Which country in the world has given any type of special status and powers for minorities other than India?

(c) What guarantee is there that "Azad Kashmir" would ever become "Azad" in the real sense?

No one can achieve anything permanently through violence.

New Delhi

M.L. Narayanan

INDIA AND PAK

Apropos of the editorial "India-Pakistan Confrontation", it is obvious that the guiding principles of Pakistan's foreign policy in relation to India are hypocrisy, duplicity and back-stabbing.

In defiance of the basic norms of the Simla Agreement—supposed to be the bed-rock of relations between the two countries—Pakistan has been supplying arms and other material, and moral support to the terrorists in Punjab and

the secessionists in Jammu & Kashmir, thus involving itself in a clandestine and criminal effort to dismantle the unity and integrity of India.

The Pakistani leaders are repeatedly saying that they don't want any war with India over the Kashmir issue. Why, then, have they been involved in a senseless tirade against India with a volley of provocative statements?

Why is the Pakistani P.M., Ms Bhutto, making a desperate effort to generate world-wide religious fanaticism by exploiting the Kashmir issue? Why has the Pak Foreign Minister, Mr Yakub Khan, so blatantly stated in a broadcast that Pakistan would intensify its diplomatic efforts to mobilise world opinion on the Kashmir issue? Why did the Pakistani authorities remain silent over the dangerously provocative statement made by Sardar Quayyum, President of "Azad Kashmir" that a commando force of 10,000 would cross the border to support the "struggle" in the Valley?

And last but not least, how will India believe, in an environment with such a background, that the effort of a large Pakistani mob to intrude into the Indian territory on February 5 was not a deliberate and blatant provocation for a war?

Balagiri

Jaykrishna Sahu

DEMOCRACY TRIUMPHS

This refers to the cover story "Democracy Triumphs over Communism" (March Issue). "Roll up that map; it will not be wanted these 10 years", said William Pitt, the British Prime Minister, while looking at a map of Europe when he heard of the defeat of the Austro-Russian forces at Austerlitz by Napoleon. That was in 1805. Today, nearly two centuries later, one feels tempted to say the same, though the context is very different.

Europe will never be the same after the momentous changes that have brought down the Berlin Wall and led to the collapse of one communist regime after another in Poland, Hungary, Czechoslovakia, Bulgaria, East Germany and Romania. It is not that the boundaries of the different States will change, except perhaps those of the two Germanies if and when they are unified. But far-reaching economic, social and political changes are on the cards that will undoubtedly make Europe very different from what it had been since the forties.

Serampore

Manoj K. Jain

IMPACT OF SCIENCE

As I read your Topical Essay "Science and Human Happiness" (April issue), I was reminded of H.G. Wells's

comment: "Modern science is a strange paradox. On one side it has opened up a vista of celestial blessing and comforts on earth, having conquered time, distance and space, thereby translating 'impossibility' into 'possibility', while, on the other, it has degraded man to the basest degree, having made him a brute of the most formidable type."

Man must understand that life is not a simple geometric pattern, nor are men and women mere parallelograms. What makes man a real man is not his physical and material richness but his sense of the eternal, that immortal voice within him for the sake of which even kings have abandoned their empires and become a wandering mendicants. Man must discover his roots in the eternal.

Varanasi

Tarheshwari Prasad

EDUCATION POLICY

You have rightly pointed out that today's education system is full of faults. A major factor responsible for the present state of affairs is the attitude of the parents. They do not understand that a child's rank in class is not all that matters. His/her display of initiative, inquisitiveness and understanding are qualities to be fully developed. A sea change cannot be brought about unless parents abandon their belief that their children should always top the class and come second to none.

Unless drastic reforms are introduced and the workload made need based, there may be many more suicide cases. There is a limit to the stress that these delicate shoulders can bear.

Secunderabad

A. Srinivasa Murthy

ENVIRONMENT POLLUTION

Today's child in his cradle inhales the obnoxious gases spilled by vehicles and factory chimneys, his ears get deafened by the noise of screaming loudspeakers and he gets foul water to drink. Isn't it a great shame that we are unable to provide even a sustainable milieu for posterity?

Varanasi

Jaideep Barman

GRATEFUL OF CM.

I am a regular reader of "C.M.". It is an ocean of general knowledge, essays, current affairs and many other useful features. In my view, it is the best magazine in India for preparing for various competitive examinations.

New Delhi

Tamanna Ali

May be you have recently appeared in any competitive examination.

We shall be grateful if you could send us the question papers. Original papers will be returned along with the postage spent by you.

Your gesture will be appreciated.

Notes on Current National Affairs

Union Budget 1990-91

Basically designed to promote growth with equity, the National Front Government's first budget, for 1990-91, presented on March 19 by Prof Madhu Dandavate, announced a fairly stiff dose of taxation for the upper middle and affluent classes while giving reliefs to the lower middle and salaried people. The Gold Control Act has been withdrawn. The total rural allocation has been raised to 49 per cent, this fulfilling the National Front's commitment.

The new levies were calculated to raise net revenue of Rs 1959 crore for the Centre. The Finance Minister made an all-out effort to reduce the budgetary deficit from Rs 9165 crore to Rs 7206 crore as against the revised budget estimate of Rs 11,750 crore deficit by the end of the fiscal year 1989-90. His aim was to check tax evasion, conspicuous consumption and slow the inflation rate.

The levies made petrol, high speed diesel, aviation fuel, motor-cars, air conditioners, cigarettes, ice cream, jams, VCRs, fridges, iron and steel, tyres and tubes and aluminium costlier. The charges for postal services have been substantially raised, as also those for telephones.

But the tax reliefs were significant. The income tax exemption limit has been raised from Rs 18,000 to Rs 22,000, and the tax slabs have been lowered.

As a further measure of relief to the lower and middle income groups, the Finance Minister extended the lowest rate of 20 per cent from the present limit of Rs 25,000 to Rs 30,000. He also gave relief to higher income-tax payers by extending the 8 per cent surcharge applicable beyond taxable income of Rs 75,000 as against the present limit of Rs 50,000. This will be applied to the corporate taxpayers also. Under the new proposals, a person with a salary income of Rs 42,000 a year will not have to pay any tax at all.

A comprehensive debt relief plan

was announced for the marginal farmers with loans upto Rs 10,000; and also an employment guarantee scheme for the drought-prone areas, a new Agricultural Policy Resolution. A multi-pronged drive is proposed against the generation of black money.

There is a tax rebate of 20 per cent on savings on provident fund, life insurance and National Savings Certificate with a maximum tax rebate upto Rs 10,000. For authors, playwrights, artists, musicians, actors and sportsmen the limit is Rs 14,000. Equity-linked savings scheme (ELSS) units are eligible for deduction upto a maximum of Rs 10,000 from total income. Annual return on investment in the units will be eligible for tax concession under Section 80L. The present Gift Tax on donors has been replaced by a donee-based tax. Limit of gifts received at time of marriage has been raised to Rs 1 lakh. Impulses for growth, and exports have been strengthened. The Central Plan outlay has been raised by 14.2 per cent over the 1989-90 to Rs 39,329 crore.

Budget At a Glance: Revenue Receipts Rs 57,938 crore; Capital Receipts Rs 27,391 crore; Total Receipts Rs 87,329 crore; total Expenditure Rs 94,535 crore. Revenue Deficit Rs 13,032 crore; overall deficit Rs 7,206 crore (against 1989-90 revised estimate of Rs 11,750 crore).

The total outstanding dues from farmers, weavers and rural artisans, to which the National Front Government was pledged to give relief, amounted to Rs 2,800 crore till October 2, 1989.

Of this, the share of the Centre—public sector banks and the regional rural banks—came to only 50 per cent and the provision of Rs 1,000 crore made in the budget proposals for 1990-91 was sufficient to take care of this amount. The Centre would write to the States to draw up the schemes for writing off loans given by the cooperative credit banks and would offer assistance to the States in debt relief.

Defence expenditure: For the defence services a provision of Rs 15,750 crore has been made, thus showing a notable increase in the defence expenditure. "This is not of our choice but is the direct result of the situation on our borders", the Finance Minister said.

The defence requirements for the Indo-Pak border and Siachen defences are now higher, and also the provision for pensions and allowances.

Hike in Rail Fares and Freight

A steep hike in rail fares and freight was announced by the Railway Minister, Mr George Fernandes, while presenting the Railway Budget for 1990-91 on March 14. He proposed an increase of 17 per cent in upper class air-conditioned and first-class travel and a freight hike of 10 per cent. Increases were also proposed in second class mail and express trains, second class monthly season tickets, parcel and luggage rates and the sleeper surcharge for second class (up by Rs 5 to 10, depending on distance travelled). Long distance travelling is going to be far more expensive now with the hike in sleeper surcharge.

The new proposals are aimed at fetching the railways an additional Rs 892 crore. After paying a dividend of Rs 932 crore to the general exchequer, the railways would close with a surplus of Rs 186 crore.

The outlay for the 1990-91 railway plan has been fixed at Rs 5,000 crore as compared to Rs 4,450 crore in 1989-90. The budgetary support works out to 28.4 per cent of the total plan outlay, the lowest ever in the history of the railways.

The fares for upper classes—AC first class, AC sleeper class, first class and AC chair class—will be up by 17 per cent. The fare of second class mail/express is to be increased by one rupee at the lowest slab, progressively increasing to a maximum of Rs 20 for distances beyond 1400 km.

Ordinary second class fare is to be increased by 50 paise at the lowest slab, progressively rising to a maximum of Rs 4 for distances beyond 300 km. The price of platform tickets was proposed to be raised from 1.50 to Rs 2.

Increase in Freight Rates: While freight rates would be hiked by 10 per cent, the increase would be 7 per cent during the slack season from April to September, as an incentive to rail users to offer more traffic between April 1 and September 30 this year. Also keeping in view the interests of the common man, certain essential commodities would be exempted from the hike—foodgrains, pulses, salt for human consumption, edible oils, fruits and vegetables, sugar, gur and jaggery. Rates for parcels and luggage would go up by 10 per cent.

Railway earnings from passenger travel were put at Rs 3115 crore, from goods traffic at Rs 8424 crore.

Later concessions: On March 26 the Railway Minister announced some concessions in rail fares and platform ticket, which will mean a loss of Rs 45 crore per year in revenue. He made a fervent appeal that the cost of this public utility service should be borne by the entire community.

There would be no change in the price of the platform ticket and it would remain at Rs 1.50. There would be no hike in rail fares for journeys upto 25 km and the maximum increase in the second class fare for journeys up to 1,000 km would be Rs 15 and not Rs 20 as proposed earlier. The hike in the second class seasonal ticket would be between Rs 3 and Rs 9 instead of between Rs 4 and Rs 12 as was proposed. The hike in the first class seasonal ticket would be between Rs 12 and Rs 36 instead of between Rs 16 and Rs 48.

A-320 Kick-back Scandal

Yet another scandalous transaction came to light on March 29 when the Central Bureau of Investigation registered a criminal case against former Civil Aviation Secretary, Dr S.S. Sidhu, and two former Managing Directors of Indian Airlines, Capt Kamini Chaddha and Mr R. Prasad, and former Deputy Managing Director B.K. Bhasin in the controversial Airbus 320 deal. This scandal, involving a deal of Rs 2197 crore, could be bigger than Bofors which cost about

Rs 1600 crore.

The FIR filed by the CBI alleges that Airbus Industries paid commissions and bribe of large sums to concerned public servants to strike the deal worth Rs 2,500 crore for purchase of Airbus-320 aircraft. Kick-backs were paid to certain agents and middlemen and these payments were deposited in banks in India and abroad.

The FIR also mentions two foreign companies and certain public servants of the Government of India on the charges of cheating, bribery and corrupt practices. Besides the Airbus Industries, the FIR names the manufacturers of the engine (V-2500) fitted into the aircraft and manufactured by an international consortium named International Aexo Engines, as an accused in the case.

The CBI is likely to take the help of Interpol for investigating the charges as a probe will have to be conducted in several countries, including France, U.S.A., West Germany and Switzerland.

The purchase of 31 aircraft from Airbus Industries after cancelling the letter of intent issued to the Boeing Company (U.S.) has been controversial from the beginning. So far 15 planes have been received out of which one crashed at Bangalore, killing 93 persons. The Indian Airlines has grounded 14 planes and postponed the delivery of four more planes. There are allegations of a sudden disregard of a committee's recommendations and reversal of earlier decisions.

Assam-Nagaland Border Tangle

The many years old border dispute between Assam and Nagaland, which often led to clashes, has again come into the limelight. The Assam Chief Minister has complained to the Centre against Nagaland's uncooperative posture. In a memorandum Mr Mahanta contended that all efforts to find a permanent solution had been frustrated by the Nagaland Government. He cited instances of Nagaland rejecting the advice of the Centre on the dispute and also its non-acceptance of at least two commission reports and suggestions to maintain peace in the disputed area.

The construction of a bridge by the Nagaland Government over the

Diphu river on the Assam-Nagaland border in the reserve forest within Assam, with the "active involvement" of the Nagaland armed police, had further caused a "serious threat to peace and harmony on the border".

Assam's border disputes with Arunachal Pradesh and Meghalaya also remain unresolved. Assam leaders feel that if States were to be allowed to unilaterally derecognise constitutional boundaries in the disputed area, the "resultant constitutional chaos can well be imagined".

While Assam has expressed satisfaction over the initiatives taken by the National Front Government on the implementation of the Assam Accord, it has reiterated that the Illegal Migrants (Determination by Tribunals) Act, 1983, should be scrapped immediately since it gives protection to foreign nationals instead of helping their detection. The Chief Minister called for immediate action on Clause six of the accord which provides for constitutional and administrative safeguards for the Assamese people.

To prevent infiltration into the State, Mr Mahanta has urged the Central Government to accord top priority to construction of a border road and fencing along the Assam-Bangladesh border.

India-China Understanding

Although a settlement on the Sino-Indian border issue is not yet in sight, the Foreign Minister Qian Qichen's three-day visit to India (March 22-24) helped to promote further understanding between the two countries. Both India and China have lately been keen on improving their relations, especially since Mr Rajiv Gandhi's Beijing trip in December, 1988. Mr Qian's visit was the first by a Chinese Foreign Minister to New Delhi. During the past few years talks have been held at the official level. The Joint Working Group will meet again later this year to discuss the boundary question.

India has decided to send an all-party parliamentary delegation to China, indicating that the political changes in New Delhi notwithstanding, this country is determined to continue the cordial dialogue in an effort to mend fences and strengthen ties.

To convey the sense of continuity in India's China policy, the National Front Government has repeatedly

stressed that Mr Rajiv Gandhi's visit to Beijing was a watershed in Sino-Indian relations. This was despite the new Government's general reluctance to give credit to the previous regime for any achievement.

Mr Rajiv Gandhi's visit to China was indeed a turning point in Sino-Indian relations. It marked a thaw in the bilateral ties and the two countries felt confident enough to begin talks, albeit preliminary, on the ticklish border question. The visit also marked a change in mutual outlook, characterised by emphasis on areas of agreement, rather than disagreement.

Since the July, 1989, meeting of the two Foreign Secretaries to go into the border question, India and China have been able to reduce the number of troops along the border, a measure which could not have been taken without the two sides attaining an appropriate level of political understanding.

Indeed, the Chinese position on tensions between India and Pakistan over Kashmir, as enunciated by Mr Qian, is regarded as helpful. Beijing has reiterated the stand it has taken since the early 1980s that Kashmir is a bilateral problem left over by history which has to be resolved through "peaceful mutual consultations".

Apparently, China is distancing itself from Pakistan on the Kashmir issue, as it had done earlier in relation to Afghanistan. It is equally clear that Beijing wants to maintain the cooperative relationship with Pakistan built up over three decades, as highlighted by the Chinese Defence Minister's nine-day visit in February this year.

China's Advice to Pak on L & K

Reports from various sources confirm that China has cautioned Pakistan against resorting to direct interference in Kashmir which might give rise to a situation of confrontation and conflict between India and Pakistan. China has no intention to mediate between India and Pakistan to resolve the Kashmir issue but it has veered round to the view that both parties must adhere to the Simla process and not allow their relations to deteriorate further.

During the recent visit of the Chinese Foreign Minister, Mr Qian Qichen, to Delhi the Indian leaders affirmed their stand that religious

fundamentalism was unacceptable and secession of any part of Indian territory could not be allowed. India fully supported Chinese rights in Tibet and did not allow any anti-Chinese political activity to be conducted from its soil, so it expected China to caution Pakistan not to meddle in India's internal affairs by stoking the fires of secessionism.

Prime Minister V.P. Singh and External Affairs Minister I.K. Gujral both made it clear that India could not permit its secular fabric, based on cherished values, to be destroyed. Mr Qian assured that China was not taking sides on this question and desired that India and Pakistan should peacefully resolve it without outside interference.

China has been counselling patience on Nepal as well in its dispute with India over trade and transit rights. The Chinese Prime Minister, Li Peng, who was recently in Kathmandu, made it clear to the Nepalese leadership that China was in no position to pull them out of the present crisis and that realism demanded that they sorted out their problems with India through direct negotiations.

Fall of two Cong Govts

The Congress (I) suffered yet another setback when two ministries—those in Goa in the south and Meghalaya in the north-east,—dominated by the party, collapsed on the same day—March 26. The Congress (I) had failed to keep its flock together in both cases. Possibly, the existence of a non-Congress regime at the Centre had something to do with this development, the winds blowing in the country being unfavourable to the party that held sway in until 1989.

In Goa it was the resignation of seven MLAs, including the Assembly Speaker, from the Cong (I) that caused the downfall of the ministry headed by Mr P.S. Rane. Since the seven MLAs who resigned constitute one-third of the Congress-I legislature party, they do not attract the provisions of the anti-defection law. The Speaker's partisan role, however, is far from commendable, but in these days of falling standards in politics few people seem to care if Speakers deviate from the straight path.

The Progressive Democratic Front consisting of the seven Congress-I deserters, now styling themselves as

the Goan People's Party, and the Maharashtra Gomantak Party (MGP) has a strength of 26 in the 40-member Assembly. It formed a new 10-member ministry headed by Mr Churchill Alemao. It is supposed to be an interim ministry and was sworn in on March 27.

In Meghalaya, the fall of the 25-month-old Government led by Mr P.S. Sangma was brought about by the resignation of six Ministers. The non-Congress-I parties, under the leadership of former Chief Minister B.B. Lyngdoh, formed the new Government. It is apparent that in both States, discontent among a section of the Congress-I MLAs was the main cause. Mr B.B. Lyngdoh, leader of the newly-formed United Meghalaya Parliamentary Party, headed the new ministry. On March 30, as many as 16 new ministers were sworn in, raising the strength of the ministry from 7 to 23. The ruling party has 32 members in the 60-member House.

Congress-I loses Majority in Rajya Sabha

A notable result of the biennial elections to the Rajya Sabha held towards the close of March was that the Congress(I) lost its majority in the House, with the bulk of the 70 seats going to the Janata Dal and its allies in line with the changed composition of the State Assemblies after the recent Lok Sabha poll.

Of the 70 seats, the Congress-I had held 44. In the final analysis, the Congress-I, which had 136 seats in the 245-member Upper House on the eve of the poll, is now left with 111 seats. The Janata Dal and BJP were the principal gainers as they wrested a number of seats from the Congress-I. However, the Congress-I will, as in the Lok Sabha, continue to be the single largest party in the Rajya Sabha.

The voting was on expected lines with virtually no evidence of any defiance of party whips. Cross voting had been feared in Uttar Pradesh and in one or two other States, but this did not happen.

While 27 candidates had been declared elected unopposed on March 22, the last date for withdrawals, the prominent winners in the poll included Steel and Mines Minister Dinesh Goswami, BJP Vice-President Sikandar Bakht, former Union Law

Minister Ashoke Sen, AICC-I General Secretary K.N. Singh and former Law Minister M.L. Fotedar.

In U.P. the Janata Dal won six of the 11 seats, the Cong (I) 3, BJP 2. In Bihar, JD won 3, Cong(I) 2, CPI and BJP one each. In Himachal Pradesh BJP won the lone seat; Meghalaya's lone seat was won by former Lok Sabha Deputy Speaker G.G. Swell. In West Bengal, J.D. leader Ashoke Sen, and four Left Front candidates were elected. In Bihar all the official nominees of the JD, Cong(I), BJP and CPI were successful.

No Talks with Pak on Kashmir

On the wholly tenable and well-defended ground that developments in the Kashmir Valley are entirely India's internal affair, Prime Minister V.P. Singh made it clear on March 22 that he had no intention of holding talks with Ms Benazir Bhutto on the issue. He said he would talk to "the people of Kashmir" to resolve domestic problems. During Mr V.P. Singh's Namibia visit world leaders had appreciated India's viewpoint that the Kashmir issue should be sorted out in accordance with the Simla Agreement.

"We can have bilateral talks with Pakistan. But for summit level (with Ms Benazir Bhutto) the atmosphere has to be created. Certainly it has to be different from the present one", Mr Singh stated in response to a reported offer of Pakistan's Prime Minister that she was prepared for unconditional talks with India on Kashmir.

No Islamic Defence Line: According to External Affairs Minister I.K. Gujral, the Government did not have any evidence of the so-called "Islamic Defence Line" or any defence pact between Pakistan and Iran aimed against India. Nor does the Government have any information about Pakistan transferring arms from China to Iran.

As for the Pakistani diplomatic offensive, fortunately for India almost the entire Islamic world, barring one or two countries, did not subscribe to Pakistan's theory that the Kashmir problem was a religious issue.

Situation serious: Governor Jagmohan on April 2 conceded that the situation in Kashmir is serious. The terrorists' activities have terrified the people. They are like "frightened

pigeons in a net of terrorism". The Government is working out a strategy for tackling the problem.

With assassinations, arson and bomb blasts becoming a daily affair, Kashmir is currently in the worst turmoil since its accession to the Indian Union. The tragedy is reflected in the fact that most of the one lakh members of the minority community in Kashmir Valley have migrated to Jammu and places as far away as Madras, with no knowledge of when they can return to their homes.

Apart from minority community members, "outsiders" or those who work in public sector undertakings, banks and professionals, such as doctors, teachers and engineers, have also left the Valley. Civic facilities in Jammu are bursting at their seams from the inflow of "refugees". The media has also been hounded out of the Valley. Representatives of major news agencies and newspapers called it a day after the authorities clearly told them to leave.

The temples of the minority have also become targets of attack. Several militant outfits and religious leaders have repeatedly assured the minorities that no harm would come to them as they were "a trust for the majority community in the Valley", but the unending stream of migrants from the Valley continues.

New Constitution Amendment

The Lok Sabha passed, on April 5, at the second attempt, the 65th Constitution Amendment (later renumbered 64th) seeking to extend President's rule in Punjab by six months from May 11, 1990. Initially, the Government's intention was to seek extension of President's rule for a year, but when the Congress (I) insisted on a shorter period, a compromise was reached. Hectic efforts had been made to muster maximum strength but the final passage of the Bill showed large absenteeism with only 399 members voting for it, three against it and three abstained.

The Bill had earlier fallen through on March 30 in the Lok Sabha for want of the requisite two-thirds majority, even though all parties had declared their support for the measure.

The President's rule expires in Punjab on May 10 and unless it is

extended, the Election Commission would have to start the election process. The Bill was then taken up and approved by the Rajya Sabha on April 9.

The Bill was taken up in the Lok Sabha on April 4 after the approval had been given by majority for waiving the rule of business 338 which stipulates that a Bill once defeated cannot be reintroduced in the same session.

Home Minister Mufti Mohammad Sayeed listed several steps which had been contemplated by the Government to bring peace in Punjab and to isolate terrorists. These include combing of the border areas, patrolling in sensitive pockets and steps to strengthen the civil administration at district levels.

The Union Home Minister assured that elections in Punjab would be held as soon as it was practical, probably within six months. Former Minister of State for Home P. Chidambaram alleged the situation in Punjab was much worse today than what it was in November last. He claimed that the district of Tarn Taran was virtually under the rule of terrorists and there was no force to guard the people. He condemned the so-called consensus worked out on Punjab. The Cong (I) however supported the Bill.

Govt's 4-month balance-sheet

An official assessment of the National Front Government's performance since it took office and the progress of implementation of its election manifesto brings out some plus points. The implementation has indicated substantial progress in a number of areas and completion of action according to schedule in a number of others.

Among the items on which action has already been completed included the Prevention of Atrocities Act for protection of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, and a scheme for debt relief for loans upto Rs 10,000, as already indicated in the Budget. The Government had also announced a new three-year import and export policy, laying thrust on export promotion and the documentation and procedures for exports had been drastically simplified as a measure of export promotion. The National Integration Council has been reconstituted.

Action in other areas has been substantially completed and the Bills are expected to be introduced during the current session of Parliament. These Bills included: Bill on Panchayati Raj (Constitutional Amendment), a revised Bill on Legal Aid, Bill on Right to Work, an Employment Guarantee Scheme and another Bill on Workers' Participation in Management. The Bill for setting up autonomous corporation for TV and radio has already been introduced and will be enacted. The 9th Schedule of the Constitution would be amended to include land reform laws of States. Several Bills will be introduced during the monsoon session of Parliament.

Administrative action has been completed in a number of areas. Special courts had been set up in Delhi and supplementary investigation of 1984 riot cases had been taken up. The environmental policy and Acts had been reviewed from the point of view of protection of tribal interests while preserving the environment and decisions taken on measures which had been recommended by a committee.

The new methodology for working out production costs and support prices for farmers was being worked by an expert committee. The interim report of the committee had been submitted already and examined by the advisory committee of the Department of Agriculture. An Inter-State Council as envisaged in Article 263 of the Constitution will be notified. Outlays for the rural sector are being stepped up and a beginning had been made in the Central plan.

More Violence, More Terrorism

Violence, subversive activities and terrorism have been increasing in the country during the past few months, according to the Union Home Ministry. Its report for 1989-90 admits that such lawless activities have particularly affected the border States of Punjab and J & K.

The law and order situation in the country has naturally been causing concern. The latest manifestation of terrorism has been through insurgent and extremist activities in a few North-Eastern States as well, and the spurt in left-extremist violence in Andhra Pradesh and Bihar.

Increased caste and communal

tensions in some parts of the country, particularly in Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh, also vitiated the law and order situation, causing stress and strain on the law enforcement machinery. The Ram Janam Bhoomi-Babri Masjid controversy cast a long shadow over communal harmony during 1989, sparking off 40 major riots in Rajasthan, Bihar, Gujarat, Uttar Pradesh, Karnataka, Maharashtra and Jammu and Kashmir.

Bhagalpur in Bihar witnessed unprecedented communal violence in over a month-long disturbances beginning at a "Shilapujan" procession on October 24 last.

In Punjab problem the security forces continued to mount pressure on the terrorists and raids were conducted on their hideouts. Fresh initiatives were taken by the Government to resolve the problem. An all-party meeting was held in Delhi on December 17 where a broad consensus was reached to resolve the problem to find an enduring basis within the framework of the Constitution.

Left-wing extremist violence in 1989 registered an increase with Andhra Pradesh and Bihar continuing to remain the worst affected areas. The Telengana region-based people's war group (PWG) was responsible for the bulk of violence and its targets of attack included public properties.

Increased extremist violence was also witnessed in Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra and Orissa due to the spread of PWG activists to the border areas in the Godavari valley. Bihar, Tamil Nadu, Maharashtra, Uttar Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat and Karnataka were considerably affected by caste conflicts during the year. Gang warfare between caste-based criminal groups in Bihar and hording areas of Uttar Pradesh and clashes between Harijans, Dalits and caste Hindus in Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh accounted for most of the violence in the year.

In the North-East, the All Bodo Student's Union (ABSU) demanded a separate State resulting in considerable violence. The United Liberation Front of Assam (ULFA), an extremist group, stepped up its campaign of murder, looting and kidnapping, spreading panic among the non-Assamese people.

Indo-Nepal Treaty Talks Fruitless

The expectations of a new Trade and Transit Treaty being signed soon have been belied as a result of the new Kathmandu regime's rigid attitude. Reports indicate that the Marich Man Singh Shrestha Ministry was no longer interested in concluding a treaty with India on the terms reached at the February meeting in New Delhi. A prominent member of the Rashtriya Panchayat (parliament) and leader of the Madhesiya community of Indian origin settled in Nepal confirmed this impression on April 5.

The Nepalese Government would not sign the treaty as India's stand on the pro-democracy movement in the Himalayan Kingdom had visibly undergone a change from non-interference to one of concern. "Nepal will not put her seal unless India extends support—tacit or otherwise—to the repression on the people in the Himalayan Kingdom", he said.

Nepal had been showing unusual eagerness and undue haste so long to conclude the treaty with India, even to the extent of renewing the 1950 treaty. However, the situation had now been reversed with the Kathmandu Government stalling on the plea that a new Foreign Minister had been appointed. The reshuffle of the ministry proved that all those, who had openly abused India, both inside and outside the House since the expiry of the treaty with India, had been rewarded with berths in the Ministry.

The timing of the reshuffle and induction of anti-Indian elements into the Ministry at a time when the high-powered official level delegation, headed by Foreign Secretary S.K. Singh himself, showed that the ruling clique "does not want to develop friendship with India".

The United National People's Movement (Communist-Marshall group) warned the Marich Man Singh Shrestha Government against concluding any treaty with India during the political turmoil. The extremist wing of the Communists also spoke against the continuation of the 1950 treaty. The stand of the Shrestha Ministry came as a rude shock to the people at a time when a liberal and national conscience Government was the pressing demand of the time. That Ministry was dominated by hardliners.

Notes on Current International Affairs

Gorbachov—Executive President

Mr Gorbachov was sworn in as the first Soviet Executive President soon after the announcement of his election by the Congress of the People's Deputies in the Kremlin on March 18. The Congress elected the 59-year-old Soviet leader, who spearheaded the programme of restructuring the Soviet society, by an overwhelming majority of 1,329 votes to 495. Deputies from the Baltic Republics did not vote. After Mr Gorbachov's present term, the Soviet Union will hold its first nationwide Presidential election.

The new President will have wide powers to propose legislation, negotiate treaties, veto Bills and decisions of the Council of Ministers, appoint a Cabinet, declare war if the country is attacked and under certain conditions, impose President's rule.

Mr Gorbachov, the sole candidate for the post, was elected by the Congress in a secret ballot after the House rejected a strong demand that the President should be chosen by the entire Soviet electorate. Mr Gorbachov promised to use his new powers to speed up his reform effort. "It is my sacred duty to use the powers to attain concord, mutual respect, civil peace and harmony", he declared.

The assurance came in the wake of increasing inter-ethnic violence and warnings of civil war. The problems created by the economic crisis, inter-ethnic tensions, widespread shadow economy and increasing crime dominated his wide-ranging address. He also made a brief one-line reference to India, recalling the long-standing relations between the two countries. He solemnly pledged to "faithfully serve the people, strictly abide by the USSR Constitution, guarantee citizens' rights and freedom and diligently fulfil the high duties of

the President of the Soviet Union placed upon me". Mr Gorbachov completed five years of Soviet leadership on March 11.

Mr Gorbachov rejected calls for giving up the CPSU General Secretaryship. A move to bar the President from holding a top position in the party was defeated at the Congress. Mr Gorbachov has assumed the new powers at a difficult time when the country is moving away from an authoritarian and bureaucratic system to radical democratisation. He rejected arguments that concentrating such sweeping powers in one person would lead to dictatorial rule. President Gorbachov denied that the Soviet interest in the developing countries was declining because of his policy of new political thinking. New thinking did not mean that "our interest in the developing countries is waning", he said.

End of Power Monopoly: Earlier, the Soviet Communist Party agreed to give up its monopoly on power guaranteed by the Constitution. The Central Committee adopted the final draft of the reforms proposed by President Gorbachov, which also include the right to private property. The draft will have to be approved by the party congress, which is scheduled to be held later this year.

Soviet Aggression Against Lithuania: In a determined bid to thwart the major challenge posed by Lithuania (which has decided to snap its links with Moscow and become independent), Soviet tanks and armoured personnel carriers thundered into the Lithuanian capital, Vilnius, on March 24 as the Kremlin tightened its military grip on the Republic.

The U.S. administration meanwhile lodged a protest with the Soviet Union against the expulsion from Lithuania of two U.S. diplomats and warned Moscow against the military action in the Baltic Republic. Troops and equipment had been

deployed along Lithuania's frontiers because of the possibility of subversion. Some NATO combat vessels had been observed in international waters not far from Soviet territory.

"New troops and manoeuvres suggest that this is a psychological war", the Lithuanian President told a session of the Parliament. The Lithuanian Parliament declared the Baltic Republic independent on March 11. Mr Gorbachov and his advisers called on the Republic's leaders to open negotiations with Soviet officials.

Earlier, Mr Gorbachov showed enormous patience in trying to win back the Lithuanian leaders through argument and persuasion. When he visited the Lithuanian capital, Vilnius, he moved freely among the people and held an intense discussion with Lithuanian intellectuals. He promised to hold a referendum on the issue of separation and also to get the Soviet parliament to enact a law which would specify how the right (which they have had in abstract since Stalin's infamous 1936 Constitution) can be exercised.

Indeed, Mr Gorbachov was confronted with a fateful decision. The separation of the Lithuanian Communist Party from the Soviet party is bound to be a prelude to an irresistible demand, which is already growing, for the secession not only of this republic but also of the other two Baltic States, Estonia and Latvia, from the Soviet Union. And the urge is bound to spread to other republics too.

Estonia Reds' new party: Communists in Estonia on March 25 broke ties with the Soviet Communist Party in Moscow and formed their own party. The decision made Estonia the second Soviet republic after Lithuania in which communists voted to form an independent party. In Lithuania, the party move was followed by a parliamentary declaration of independence from the Soviet State.

The vote at a special party congress in the Estonian capital was 432 in favour of the split, with three against and six abstentions. "This means that the Communist Party of Estonia is an independent party, as in Lithuania", a spokesman said. A programme adopted by the congress says the party's aim is an independent Estonian State. Millions of voters in Estonia, Latvia, the Russian Federation, Byelorussia and Ukraine voted on March 18 to elect their parliaments and local councils. Popular fronts candidates campaigning for independence of Estonia and Latvia were on top in both the republics but their victory was not as sweeping as that of the Sajudis in Lithuania.

The Sajudis unseated the communists as only 20 per cent of the 3.5 million population is non-Lithuanian. But in Estonia and Latvia the non-indigenous population makes up between 35 and 46 per cent and these voters favoured candidates opposing independence.

Free election in Hungary: On March 25 Hungary held its first free general elections since 1947, marking the end of the Communist era in this Eastern European country. Nearly eight million citizens were eligible to cast their ballots for candidates from 12 political parties competing for the 386 parliamentary seats. The complicated electoral system is a mixture between majority rule and a proportional system.

Benazir Well on Top

In Pakistan's volatile politics, Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto's Government appears to be in a more comfortable position now than it has been at any other time during its 15 months in power. In part this is due to the domestic gains made on the Kashmir issue.

In its uncharacteristically cool handling of the opposition's bid to start a constitutional controversy over the Prime Minister's post-March 20 position, the Government has managed to put the opposition on the defensive. This is a significant departure from a situation in which the opposition has been calling the shots and bogging down the ruling party in a game of endless manoeuvres and counter-maneuvres.

The opposition is in some disarray. The regional situation—Kashmir in particular—has worked to Ms

Bhutto's domestic advantage and contributed in bolstering her position. The regional situation has also helped the Government in the sense of eliciting firm backing from the military establishment, which apparently disapproves of attempts to rock the domestic political boat at this juncture. The Government's confidence also reflects a better working relationship with President Ghulam Ishaq, whom the opposition has annoyed by its conduct over Article 91 (2A) over the issue of a vote of confidence in Ms Bhutto.

The real question is whether Ms Bhutto will seize the opportunity and use this breather to set a new and coherent political and economic policy direction for her Government—something which it has lacked for the past year. The opposition was also beset by trouble in its own ranks. Rifts, both within the opposition parties and among them, created new problems and preoccupied its leadership. The Mohammed Junejo-Nawaz Sharif divide, papered over by the March 23 rally in Lahore, remains to be resolved. Meanwhile, a bloody clash between rival Muslim League groups in Sargodha, the same day, served to underline the faction-ridden state of the party.

Opposition troubles and mistakes have largely contributed to the Government's position of relative advantage, and not its own performance.

Constitutional Tussle: Ms Benazir Bhutto has successfully crossed what was described as "a constitutional hurdle" and appears to be comfortably placed in the ongoing tussle with her opponents. On March 20 the speculation that she would seek a vote of confidence ended. She declared that she had been elected for a period of five years and that there was no constitutional requirement for a fresh vote.

All the English and Urdu dailies published front-page reports saying Ms Bhutto would seek a fresh vote of confidence, a demand persistently being made by the opposition. Some of the newspapers even speculated on the number of votes that would go in favour of Ms Bhutto. The Pakistan Opposition has decided to move the Supreme Court to seek its interpretation of Article 91 of the Constitution since, according to them, Ms Bhutto ceased to hold the office of Prime

Minister on March 20. A committee of legal experts is finalising the petition.

Meanwhile, the combined opposition parties have categorically rejected Ms Bhutto's proposal of forming a national government. She had mooted the idea of inviting moderate opposition leaders to join the Government but the opposition felt this was a clever move to thwart threats to dislodge her. Mr Jatoti felt that the prevailing conditions and the leadership of Ms Bhutto did not favour the establishment of a national government.

Pak to get more US arms: The Bush Administration has decided to clear \$ 230 million worth of arms to Pakistan for the fiscal year 1990-91. Among the top US weapons being considered by Pakistan are radars, missile guidance systems and battle-field control, command and communication systems. Significantly, Pakistan has turned down a US offer to sell the M1-A1 Abrams main battle tank in favour of an arms portfolio which clearly highlights high technology and electronic counter-measures systems.

This decision to maintain US military assistance at this level flouts India's hopes that US military assistance to Pakistan will decrease. The Pentagon has cited India as the second largest recipient of Soviet arms, second only to Afghanistan, and India's aspirations as the "guarantor of regional security" is giving rise in neighbouring countries to "concerns of Indian predominance".

Nonetheless, and independent of the U.S. relations with India, senior Washington defence officials have said that continued security assistance to Islamabad was "required to support and sustain the new democratic Government" of Benazir Bhutto. Besides, these officials contend, confidence in conventional military capabilities will reduce the pressure on Pakistan to take the nuclear option. Justifying the \$ 230 million-arms assistance to Pakistan, US officials have said that "our relationship with Pakistan does more than just bolster that country against its adversaries".

Pak Plans for N. Weapons

Further confirmation of Pakistan's secret plans for manufacturing nuclear bombs has come from a leading US Congressional nuclear

non-proliferation activist, Senator John Glenn. Pakistan, he said on April 4, intends making nuclear weapons. He has blamed France for furthering the Pakistani quest by deciding to sell a nuclear reactor to Islamabad.

Mr Glenn, Chairman of the powerful US Senate Governmental Affairs Committee, said in the US Upper House that "the French decision is a slap in the face of Western nations control of sale of nuclear weapons technology to Pakistan. "The vocal proliferation critic said that France had broken the decade-old US sponsored embargo barring sale of such technology to Pakistan. But the Senator said the underlying principle in the deal was "the simple reason...that Pakistan has for long wanted to become a nuclear weapons State".

"There is no Perestroika in Pakistan's nuclear programme", the Senator said, criticising a reported Soviet decision to also sell nuclear powered reactor to Islamabad. The US Senator quoted late Pakistani Prime Minister Zulfikar Ali Bhutto who, after the Indian detonation of a nuclear device in 1974, said that Pakistan "will eat grass to achieve that state". However, pointing to the debilitating economic situation in Pakistan, the Senator said it was the poor people of Pakistan "eating grass" in contrast.

Tracing the implications of providing non-nuclear countries with such technology, the Senator said the French and the Soviet decisions are deeds that will have "consequences far beyond South Asia". The sales would pave the way for an open market for nuclear reactors as pressure will grow among other buyers and sellers.

Senator Glenn, while citing the US and Japanese Government criticism of the French reactor sale to Pakistan, said it behooved countries like the US not to supply, deal or cooperate with Pakistan and other countries which are not signatories to the Nuclear Non-proliferation Treaty (NPT). Despite Pakistan's assurances to keep the new (French) reactor open to international safeguards and inspection, Senator Glenn said nuclear technology should be kept from nations not opening up all facilities to international monitoring.

A Senate Government Affairs Committee staffer explained that Mr Glenn's remarks were a "reflection" of

a widely shared Congressional concern not only at the French decision but also at Pakistan's unabated weapons-technology quest, evident in that country's decision not to submit all its nuclear facilities to international safeguards and inspection.

Namibia Attains Freedom

On March 21, Namibia—the last of Africa's colonies—awoke to freedom in a burst of glittering festivities watched by a galaxy of world leaders. South Africa's 75-year-old stranglehold on Namibia thus ended. The U.N. Secretary-General, Mr Javier Perez de Cuellar, invited Mr Sam Nujoma, who had waged a war against the South African colonial yoke for 23 years, to take over the reins of the world's youngest nation.

India lifted sanctions against Namibia immediately on getting its independence. It also announced establishment of full diplomatic relations with Namibia from the very moment of its attaining independence. Watching the historic transfer of power were Prime Minister V.P. Singh and his predecessor Mr Rajiv Gandhi, who flew in with the Frontline States chairman, President Kenneth Kaunda of Zambia.

South Africa's Gandhi, Mr Nelson Mandela, freed on Feb 11 after 28 years behind the bars, was at hand to see two South African officers haul down Pretoria's flag. Mr De Cuellar was flanked by the South African President, Mr F.W. De Klerk, as he came to preside over what he described as "celebrations of a hope fulfilled".

Namibian independence ended decades of international wrangling over the sparsely populated desert territory of 1.4 million people, which was a German colony before it was seized by South Africa 75 years ago. The ceremony brought the curtain down on the U.N.'s most expensive and most successful peace-keeping operations lasting over a year.

India-Namibia understanding: India will soon initiate steps for assistance to Namibia in its post-independence nation building. This followed Prime Minister V.P. Singh's assurance to the President of the newly born State, Mr Sam Nujoma, in this regard when he met him at Windhoek on the Independence Day. India rejoiced at the independence of the last African colony and pledged

to do all it can in helping the new nation in the economic sphere. The areas of cooperation between India and Namibia could be human resource development, technical manpower and training of personnel in administration, particularly when the domination of whites is expected to end.

India has already upgraded its observer mission into a full-fledged High Commission and lifted economic sanctions against South-West Africa, as Namibia was called before independence.

Big-power Talks on Afghanistan

The United States and the Soviet Union have failed to achieve any breakthrough in recent high-level talks aimed at finding a compromise solution of Afghanistan. A U.S. State Department official told Asian News International that, although the recent talks in Helsinki (Finland) "were serious"—and officials on both sides indulged in "back and forth negotiations", there was no definite outcome in terms of a compromise.

The most recent exchange between Moscow and Washington figured around proposals put forth by U.S. Secretary of State James Baker during his visit to Moscow. The U.S. suggested a phased solution through a transition process which called for removal of President Najibullah and his People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan (PDPA) Government just before a new interim regime could take over the administration.

The Baker proposal entailed the election of a popular group of Afghans, comprising Afghan Mujahideen leaders from among the Pakistan-based Afghan Interim Government (AIG) and other resistance groups, which would take over the administration from the Najib Government. In the new proposals, the U.S. had for the first time removed the condition of a Najib ouster during the transition process. However, U.S. official have insisted that ultimately the success of a solution lay in Najib's and PDPA's removal, underlining that the Mujahideen would not be prepared to accept any compromise otherwise. The U.S. officials said they discussed with the Soviets specifically the issues "on Najib, how he should go, at what stage he should go", as envisioned in the Baker three-stage transition formula.

Nepal King's Climb-down

For seven weeks and more there were violent pro-democracy demonstrations in Nepal, with large crowds demanding demolition of the country's traditional structure of autocracy. Nearly a hundred people are stated to have been killed in the police and army firings. About 20,000 persons were arrested. King Birendra adopted a repressive, oppressive and rigid policy, refusing even to ask his Prime Minister and other representative of royalty to talk to the demonstrators in a bid to calm them down. The rioting, initially confined to Kathmandu, spread to several towns, with members of various professions, including doctors, engineers and teachers, joining the demonstrators.

The situation was apparently getting out of control and the monarchy itself seemed to be gravely threatened. Shedding his imperious posture at long last, King Birendra softened his stand, dismissed the Marich Man Singh Shrestha Ministry and appointed a new Prime Minister, Mr Lokendra Bahadur Chand, who is a moderate and is amenable to reason (Nepal's "Mr Clean").

The new P.M. was directed to start a dialogue with the pro-democracy demonstrators. The first reaction of the opposition parties was negative and the violence continued. Sensing victory, the people demanded an immediate announcement abolishing the much-criticised Panchayat system and establishment of a constitutional monarchy as well as a parliamentary democracy, with regular elections. The formation of a constitutional Commission was also proposed in the royal proclamation.

But there has been a mini-revolt even in the higher circles in Nepal. Several top leaders (some of them were once the King's trusted men), in a statement, urged the King to immediately announce introduction of a multi-party system and dissolution of the Rashtriya Panchayat. A new political approach that would result in the formation of a national government was sought. The King was also asked to adopt truly democratic methods and abandon his partisan approach. There were widespread condemnations of the brutal atrocities on April 6 when the army killed many people by reckless firings.

Crisis Averted: The belated an-

nouncement by King Birendra averted a major national crisis in Nepal and saved the monarchy which was indeed in danger because of the popular "revolt". If the King had persisted in his rigid stand and refused to accept the demand of the people, there would have been much more bloodshed.

There was immense joy and considerable relief among the people who danced in the streets over their creditable victory. The masses celebrated April 9 as "Liberation Day", signifying the end of the yoke of monopolistic regime that had suppressed the aspirations of the people for decades.

Nepal will now have a multi-party democratic system instead of the virtually nominated Rashtriya Panchayat imposed by the King. The freedom fighters, as well as former Ministers and Prime Ministers, urged the King to dissolve the Panchayat and start the process of establishing a democratic set-up without delay. The Palace coterie, which had exercised power for many years, was widely condemned. The new Prime Minister, Mr Lokendra Bahadur Chand, announced that general elections would be held after the Election Commission suitably amended the Constitution.

The latest reports show that hectic political talks have started in Kathmandu for establishing an all-party interim government. The new Foreign Minister, Mr P. Shamsier Jung Bahadur, wants greater understanding with India and to start with a clean slate.

Super-Power Summit in May

The U.S. President, Mr George Bush, and Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachov have at last agreed to hold a summit in the United States from May 30 to June 3 this year. The venue is likely to be Washington. Earlier, the reports were that a summit might not be possible because of the U.S. criticism of Soviet action in Lithuania. An accord on nuclear weapons is considered likely at the summit. Some other major agreements, especially the long sought Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty to limit long-range nuclear weapons, and another accord on conventional and chemical weapons are to be discussed.

Secretary of State James A. Baker has told Soviet Foreign Minister

Eduard A. Shevardnadze, with whom he held another round of talks in Washington on April 4 and 5, that independence of Lithuania holds very important consequence for Super-Power relations.

Mr Baker's strong statement elicited a public assurance from Mr Shevardnadze that the Kremlin would find a peaceful solution in Lithuania, which declared itself independent on March 11.

The two Ministers also discussed nuclear missiles. They hope to agree on the extent of the limitations to be placed on nuclear tipped Cruise missiles in a treaty that Mr Bush and Mr Gorbachov would like to sign at the summit meeting.

Mid-East—next War Theatre

Mr Yasser Arafat, President of Palestine, warned in a significant speech in Calcutta on March 28 that the Middle East will become the next arena of a catastrophic war in view of the kind of nuclear, chemical and conventional armaments that are being stockpiled by Israel with the support of the US. Mr Arafat was speaking at a reception organised in his honour by the West Bengal Government. He appealed to the world to continue the search for a peaceful solution to the Palestinian problem in the name of the women freedom fighters and people of Palestine. He felt confident that with the support of India, Palestine would soon be liberated.

Mr Arafat and the Palestinian Congress had accepted the two-nation solution adopted by the United Nations in a resolution. But the United States and Israel had rejected a peaceful solution by failing to accept that an international peace conference on Palestine should be convened. Israel is pursuing its policy of neo-colonialism and fascism and is going ahead with its programme of settling new Jewish immigrants on Palestinian territory.

According to Mr Arafat, chemical weapons had been used against Palestine and there were reports from US medical groups as evidence of such use. The "Intifadah" would continue until his country was liberated.

Unity of Third World: On March 27, speaking in Delhi, President Arafat called upon the Third World countries to unite in the face of

challenges posed by the new era of rapprochement between the Super Powers. A new world is emerging, based on advanced and sophisticated technology, incorporating new dimensions which transcend the present horizons of perception into dangerous, complicated and vast horizons. "It is a world of economic giants at the expense of the countries of the Third World, the poor and the under-developed. Therefore we must question whether the rapprochement between the giants is at our cost." Mr Arafat called for a new orientation to the non-aligned movement so that through it we are able to face the era of new rapprochement.

The Palestinian leader was speaking after he was conferred the Jawaharlal Nehru Award for International Understanding for 1988. Mr Arafat announced that the award money of Rs 15 lakh would be converted into a fund for constituting an annual Indo-Arab award for achievements in science and technology and promotion of democracy, human dignity and freedom, for consolidation of unity in India and development of Arab-Indian relations.

China Firm Against Dissidents

Chinese Communist leaders are still pursuing their stern policy of suppressing dissidents and all demands for a gradual switch to democracy. Students who staged a massive demonstration a year ago are being silenced. The leaders are taking steps to try to prevent even the smallest anti-Government incident from occurring, including increasing the public presence of soldiers in Beijing.

While the Communist Governments of Eastern Europe have fallen or transformed themselves, and China's Communist neighbour, Mongolia, has undertaken democratic reforms, Beijing appears to have succeeded in resisting the liberal trend. "The Chinese people are now silent", said one of the many intellectuals who supported the democracy movement.

Recent interviews with Chinese in three widely separated cities—Beijing, Shanghai and Hefei, capital of a largely rural province in east-central China—indicate that few people are willing to take the risk of trying to revive the movement.

The Communist Party, in its effort

to repress and intimidate those who have stood against it, has imposed a semblance of order on the universities that led last spring's massive demonstrations for democracy.

Since the army crushed the movement with a deadly assault last June in Beijing, the Government has reasserted near absolute control over the media by firing or retiring a number of top editors and closing or merging hundreds of publications.

Many who took to the streets last spring see no opportunity to do so now and seem to be waiting for a dramatic change in the political situation.

A message of unknown origin called on Beijing citizens to "take a walk" some time between April 1-5 to Tiananmen Square, the symbolic centre of the country used by students as headquarters for their democracy movement.

Echoes of Bofors Gun Scandal

Another development took place in Geneva on April 8 in connection with the Bofors gun scandal in which certain middlemen and others are alleged to have received commissions and kick-backs to the tune of over Rs 64 crore. A Swiss court issued notices to some banks in Geneva and Zurich asking for names of the beneficiaries of the Rs 1600-crore deal between a Swedish firm and the Government of India. The court has also sought several related documents in the case. Parties having any objections to the notice were given 10 days to file an appeal in a Switzerland court. In case no appeal is filed, the investigating judge would know the names of the authorised signatories of the six frozen accounts and also the names of persons who received the pay-offs. In case of an appeal the process would be delayed by a couple of weeks.

The freezing of the suspicious accounts was ordered by the V.P. Singh Government on January 26 this year. The accounts are obviously in fictitious names—AS Services Ltd., Svenska Incorporated, Lotus, Tulip and Mont Blanc, besides an unknown account. A criminal case in this connection was registered against the Swedish arms manufacturing company, A.B. Bofors, and some others.

By the issuance of these notices the "provisional freezing" of the six

accounts has been confirmed. The earlier order for freezing the accounts was issued on March 28. The date was extended after the court received a letter from India's CBI. The latest development implies that the six accounts would remain frozen till the criminal case is decided. According to legal circles, the Bofors investigations have now reached a crucial stage.

New Dimension to Bangladesh Problem

While President H.M. Ershad's Jatiya Party has expectedly won the local elections in the country's rural areas for choosing the chairman of 460 Upazillas (sub-districts), which was regarded as a test case for the ruling party's hold, the Awami League has emerged as the major opposition force against the President. There had been a political stalemate in Bangladesh for a long time because of the opposition parties' demand for a free and fair poll and the President's plea that no adverse factors were being allowed to affect the freedom of vote. The elections were held on a non-party basis.

Some features of the exercise were need to be noted: first, almost all political parties that had boycotted the previous elections of this series did take part this time; second, the people also participated, though on a limited scale; third, there were fewer cases of violence in the polls.

It is believed that the poll has opened up an opportunity which, if taken advantage of speedily, could serve as a starting point of a meaningful dialogue to end the current, needlessly prolonged, political deadlock. The opposition parties had repeatedly boycotted the exercise despite President Ershad's frequent plea for joining the process.

Whatever assessment the shrewd observers might make of the results, there is no doubt that these show the relative strength of the various parties at the grassroots level.

The ruling Jatiya Party undeniably holds sway in the countryside (it continues to enjoy immense administrative and money power). At the same time, the election has left no doubt in anyone's mind that the Awami League is the major opposition to President Ershad and would pose a challenge to his authority as time passes.

ECONOMIC SCENE

OMNIBUS AGENDA

Q. What are the highlights of the action plan enunciated by the National Front government at the Centre? Give comments.

Ans. In keeping with the promise to offer a time-bound plan as a New Year gift to the nation, Mr V.P. Singh, the new Prime Minister, declared a 35-point action plan on the New Year day, exactly thirty days after the assumption of office.

Encompassing a wide range of spheres—political, economic, social, legal, constitutional—it constitutes a truly impressive agenda by any reckoning. Whether it will be implemented *in toto* or partially is yet to be seen. It is however notable that it has been done with a commendable speed ostensibly with an eye on the fast-approaching Assembly elections and to impress on the credulous people that it is a government that not only works but works faster, as he once put it.

I. Highlights

The agenda includes the following points, in brief:

(a) **Farm sector:** On the economic front, agriculture will be accorded top priority in a variety of ways. In terms of the manifesto of the National Front party, Mr Singh has reiterated the commitment to allocate at least 50 per cent of the plan investible resources to the agricultural and rural sector starting with the annual plan, 1990-91. The farmers will be paid remunerative price for their produce. The support or procurement price will be inflation-adjusted taking into account three elements: (i) the price rise during the period from the date of announcement of the procurement price to the time of marketing the crop; (ii) labour cost will be the actual wage paid or the minimum wage whichever is higher; and (iii) managerial or entrepreneurial labour cost which would be higher than the agricultural labour. The new formula for the computation of the support

price will, obviously, be to the benefit of kulaks more than the small and marginal farmers who constitute the bulk of the farming community.

The scheme for the debt-relief upto Rs 10,000 as of October 2, 1989 to small, marginal and landless cultivators and artisans will be finalised during the budget session of Parliament.

A Constitution amendment bill on panchayati raj will be introduced keeping intact the federal structure. This very measure, it may be recalled, was defeated by a margin of just two votes in the Rajya Sabha, thanks to the adamant (the then) Opposition (now in power).

All land reform laws will be incorporated in the ninth schedule to the Constitution in order to keep them out of the purview of the court and to avoid litigation and legal wrangles entailing delay in the implementation of the reforms. Does not such a provision exist already? Will the NF government muster the needed political will to plug the loopholes, if any, and expedite the implementation of the reforms?

(b) **Industrial relations:** A new industrial relations bill will be introduced in the next monsoon session of Parliament and the promotion of workers' participation made statutory.

(c) **Fiscal measures:** A long-term fiscal policy and curbs on ostentatious and elitist consumption are the two steps contemplated in the plan in respect of the fiscal areas. Mr V.P. Singh had, as the finance minister in the previous government, formulated a long-term fiscal policy which may, in fact, be updated and modified in the light of the experience gained.

(d) **Exim policy:** The 3-year exim policy due to expire on March 31, 1991, will be abridged by one year and a new policy announced by the NF government on April 1, 1990. It will be designed to encourage the exports which result in net foreign exchange reserves on a higher scale. The urgency for such an approach is

dictated by the slide-down in the foreign exchange reserves in the past few months, notwithstanding the increase in exports to the tune of 38 per cent during the eight months, April-November, 1989, compared to the corresponding period in 1988.

(e) **Social front:** The provision of basic services and facilities in slums; night shelter for the pavement dwellers in major cities; comprehensive housing policy, especially for the poor; and liberalisation and rehabilitation of scavengers are listed to improve the living standards of the poor and the down-trodden.

For the redressal of the grievances of women, enforcement of women rights and to check discrimination, a commission on women will be set up. Similarly, for the involvement of youth in nation-building an all-India conference will be held.

The science and technology programme will be given a rural-bias to meet the needs of the village society, especially in the areas of poverty alleviation, water management and land-use.

(f) **Right to work:** Mr Singh reiterated the party's pledge to incorporate in the Constitution the right to work as a fundamental right. Without elaborating its significance and implications, he added that an employment guarantee scheme will be implemented progressively.

(g) **Right to information:** Following the growing glasnost trend, the right to information through an amendment of the Official Secrets Act is proposed. How 'open' would be our society remains to be seen.

(h) **Electoral reform:** The Union government is committed to introduce effective statutory changes in the Representation of People's Act to curb the growing use of money power, muscle power and other electoral mal-practices like booth capturing, rigging elections, impersonation etc.

(i) **Judicial reforms:** To administer expeditious justice in the courts of law and to minimise legal expenses in-

involved in it, a judicial panel will be set up to suggest ways and means to achieve these ends.

II. Comments

In the so-called 'plan of action', there is "more plan, less action". It would have been better if the government had, to begin with, initiated a handful of pick programmes for quick implementation rather than presenting an omnibus agenda about its intentions.

On closer scrutiny, it is noticed that it contains tall promises whose fulfilment is not only infeasible but dangerous in some cases. Take for instance the loan write-off to farmers, artisans etc. In view of the whopping financial burden, estimated at Rs 14,000 crore, and the fall-out of the redemption of the pledge, the two top financial bodies—the Reserve Bank of India and the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development—have expressed their unqualified opposition. Recognition of the right to work as a fundamental right, is again a very controversial issue and is likely to generate more heat and disquietude than anything else.

Austerity measures, if any, should not squeeze essential goods and capital goods imports in the name of economy or self-reliance. Not import cuts but exports expansion is the answer to the BOP deficits.

It appears that the action plan will remain mostly on paper.

RIGHT TO WORK: A FUNDAMENTAL RIGHT?

Q. Examine briefly the question of incorporation of the 'right to work' as a fundamental right in the Constitution.

Ans. The Constitution of India confers upon citizens two sets of rights: (1) Under the Directive Principles of State Policy; and (2) The Fundamental rights. The first set relates to non-justiciable rights. That is, they are not enforceable by law, if violated or not fulfilled by the State for any reason. On the other hand, the fundamental rights are justiciable. Their failure or violation by the State is questionable in the court of law.

The right to work belongs, at present, to the first category and, consequently, entails no obligation on the State for its fulfilment. Millions of men and women in India, who are

able-bodied, but jobless cannot, therefore, take recourse to a court to force the government to offer them productive employment.

To shift the 'right to work' to the category of fundamental rights, as pledged in the NF manifesto, sounds nice, noble and just. Mr Singh's commitment to redeem the pledge at least shows that the election promise was not a political gimmick and the ruling party means business about it. At least it is now becoming clear that the commitment has been made without an in-depth examination of the various aspects of the issue. It is financially infeasible, legally untenable, politically hazardous and economically unsound.

It involves mind-boggling burden on exchequer which, as alleged by Mr Singh, is "empty". To pay a dole equal to the minimum wages to 30 million workers registered with the 840 employment exchanges as at end 1988 would "eat up" nearly one-tenth of the gross national product. To provide jobs to, say, 50 million an investment to the tune of Rs 500 billion would be required over the top of the wage bill. If resources are mopped up through taxation or market borrowing, budgetary imbalances will exacerbate. The solution of the unemployment problem may prove worse than the disease.

The galloping increase in the population and the consequent rise in the labour force will aggravate matters. Moreover, dole may act as a disincentive to work in India where people are more prone to lotus-eating. It may also involve administrative problems.

If the unemployed millions approach the courts, the already clogged courts would be clogged further and the government forced to find them jobs.

Once the proposed change is effected, the NF government will bring the hornet's nest about its ears. It would be well advised to wriggle out of the web of promises by launching employment generation schemes on a massive scale.

RE-CONSTRUCTING PLAN STRATEGY

Q. What is the new direction which the re-constituted Planning Commission proposes to give to the Plan strategy?

Ans. The 9-member Planning Commission with Mr R.K. Hegde as the Deputy Chairman has only three economists but it will have a group of experts to work as a think-tank.

The new Commission feels that the Mahalanobis model of development followed in the past has only served to widen the chasm between the rich and the poor; the agricultural and rural development has lost the priority which it deserved; and the urban sectors have flourished at the cost of the countryside. It proposes to bridge the industry-agriculture and urban-rural divide in order to ensure good quality life for a larger section of society.

This mode of thinking looks like a throw-back to the ruling ideology of 1960s. The eighth plan approach paper is being recast to register a sharp break from the Congress government's "trickle down" theory of development. The focal point of planning will not be growth as in the past but employment.

The Commission would prefer to have more employment even if it means a lower growth rate. Instead of making investment in heavy and basic industries and production of goods mainly consumed by the elite segment of population, the Commission would like to switch over to labour-intensive industries, develop agro-industries and boost agricultural production. Wage goods rather than consumer durables and mass consumption goods would receive precedence. With this change in the pattern of production and investment, employment would increase. Poverty would reduce. Thus, the demand would be pushed up giving a fillip to industrial production. Growth with more equitable income and wealth distribution would follow. "Amber Charkha economy" in place of the "jet age" would be ushered in. The upbeat in the economy would be allowed to lose its shine and strength, as it dazzles the Commission.

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English as an Indian Language

This was one of the topics set for Essay in the Orissa Administrative Service examination held in December, 1989.

India is a land of numerous languages and dialects. There are native and regional languages spoken only in certain regions, while there are some others which are used by millions of people even outside the areas of their origin. It is said that no nation surpasses us in sheer multiplicity of languages, religions, castes and social strata. English was the language used by the British who ruled the country for decades in the 19th and the 20th centuries; it is still used by the elite, the bureaucracy, the leading educational institutions and even the Indian-owned business houses and commercial concerns in their correspondence because it happens to be a convenient medium of communication. Although only a small percentage of the people of India, mostly confined to the metropolitan cities, use this language fluently and habitually, it has in a sense become an Indian language. In the South, in particular, the governments and the people insist on the continued use of English in preference to Hindi for all official purposes, especially for correspondence with the Centre and for communications with other States. Few issues generated as much passionate debate as language did when our Constitution was drafted.

The battle for elevating the regional languages to the status of the official language of the States was won in 1950 with the enactment of the Constitution. The linguistic reorganisation of States in 1956, and the agitations in 1960 and 1963 virtually settled the issue. But the founding fathers of the Republic had difficulty in defining the respective roles of English and Hindi for posterity. In unequivocal words, the Constitution of India declares: "The official language of the Union shall be Hindi in Devanagari script. For a period of 15 years from the commencement of the Constitution the English language shall continue to be used for all the official purposes of the Union for which it was being used immediately before

such commencement." Under this provision, English should have been replaced as a link language in 1965 but, following the insistence of the people of the Southern States which are still allergic to Hindi (the national language), English continues to be used in India as one of the official languages in several parts of the country. The extent of the opposition to the use of Hindi in the South can be gauged by the anti-Hindi agitations in Tamil Nadu and such slogans as "English ever, Hindi never" which were widely raised until recently.

Indian Prime Ministers, from the days of Jawaharlal Nehru down to the present times, have repeatedly given the assurance that Hindi would never be forced down the throats of the people in any region which is not willing to accept it. The Official Language Act, 1963, (later amended in 1967) embodied Nehru's assurances that English would remain the official language in inter-State communication as long as the non-Hindi-speaking areas so desired. Parliament renews the provision for the use of continued use of English every 15 years. Indications are that this language, although basically foreign, will continue to be used for both administrative and educational purposes for several decades more. Any move in a contrary direction is strongly resented by millions of people in spite of firm assurances that no compulsion would be used in the matter of language.

The English language has become quite popular in this country; it is almost an Indian language, judging from its widespread use. English medium schools are preferred by countless families; students who are able to speak this language fluently and write it generally get preference in the recruitment for various jobs and also for admissions to higher institutions of learning. Those who are not well up in English feel that they are handicapped and unable to compete with others. Even though the use of regional languages is permissible in all examinations held by the Union Public Service Commission, most stu-

dents prefer to use English. A couple of years ago, a study disclosed that 86% of the candidates for the IAS and allied services opted for English, 12% for Hindi and only 2 per cent for the 10 other languages listed in the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution. At many centres the Public Service Commissions even find it difficult to find fully qualified and competent examiners to assess and evaluate the scripts of candidates. Moreover, it is only in a few cases that adequate knowledge of the regional language is insisted upon for appointment to Government jobs. Even semi-official and private establishments prefer candidates who can speak English fluently, carry on office correspondence in this language and deal with clients and customers in impressive, polished English. Things have come to such a pass that even Ministers and other VIPs who day in and day out plead the cause of Hindi get their children and grand-children admitted in public schools where the medium of instruction is English.

It is true that English can never become the language of the Indian people in the real sense. English has no moral right to occupy the predominant position it has. It is also true that much talent is wasted when a student cannot express himself or herself in English but has to study English—even the classics—in the hope of becoming successful in life and of building up a good career. Mahatma Gandhi, who wrote excellent English—simple and yet highly effective—which was the envy of many Englishmen, asserted with good reason that English education in the manner in which it has been given has emasculated the English educated Indians, constrained our intellect and rendered us effeminate. But language has been one of the most difficult issues in our nation-building efforts. A common language is commonly believed to be a condition precedent to nationhood. But like the Soviets, the Indian Union has found it necessary to evolve a different approach because, of the immense linguistic diversity.

Even so, countless people favour

the use of English because they have begun to feel that this language has become almost indispensable for administration, if not in daily life. Basic English cannot become an all-India language, for the whole genius of this language is alien to our people and we would have to transplant them completely before we would impose this as an all-India language. So, as Nehru suggested,* only those who wish to make a special study of the language should proceed to study standard English.

However, the study of English by millions of Indian people has done them much good. It has broadened their vision and outlook, and liberalised their attitudes. It has encouraged a virtual revolt against some outdated, and useless customs and practices. It has created a new class, influenced by Western thought and Western ways of living. It has cut off the elite from the masses. English is obviously one of the great world languages today, though it is a poor second in terms of the number of speakers—after Chinese. This international language should be studied in India but as a second or third language. Spanish, French and German too have rich literature but the English language, because of historical, political and economic reasons, is the most predominant. If we were to accept the arguments of the opponents of English who condemn it because it is a foreign language and because, on that ground, it is unpatriotic to use it, we would be deprived of considerable amount of technology, which is not available in any Indian language. In fact the remarkable progress made by Indian Institutes of Technology (at Kanpur and other places), the colleges of architecture and other professional courses, would become impossible if English were to be boycotted.

English is now so widely accepted in this country that knowledge and proficiency in it is regarded as an accomplishment, even a symbol of refinement. No longer is English education for girls opposed. In fact a working knowledge of English is regarded as an additional qualification among girls. These days girls holding some jobs are preferred because the wife's income supplements the husband's. And since most of the offices (except in U.P. and M.P.) use English for correspondence, English-knowing girls are at an advantage in the matrimonial market also.

Unfortunately, politics has been introduced into this question of teaching and learning English. For extraneous considerations and under misconceptions, the Coordination Forum of Vice-Chancellors of Universities in Punjab decided in 1988 to reduce the "dose" of English being given to undergraduate students in the State. From a compulsory subject it was reduced to half a subject and along with the other two languages in the State—Punjabi and Hindi—it would form a new subject called "communication skills". The forum held that in the present situation English literature had little relevance. It divides the urban people from the rural. But it is difficult to reverse the tide—at present about 90 per cent of worthwhile jobs in the administration, industry, commerce, engineering, medicine, education, insurance and banking are filled by English-speaking urban elite.

A deplorable aspect of English teaching, learning and use of the language in this country is the fall in standards. Often what is spoken or written is not English as such but an apology of it—poor construction, faulty pronunciation, wrong spellings and general disregard of the basic rules of grammar. While the standard is fairly satisfactory in high quality urban schools, it is distinctly poor in semi-urban and such rural areas where schools and colleges have been established in recent years as a part of the drive to provide education facilities to rural people. A cynic commented recently that we in India are retaining English without its life-force, namely, culture. So what we have in most areas is the language without a soul. It operates only as a communication skill for referential purposes.

In school text-books in English there are horrible errors. But why pick on school books alone? There is devastation of this language in countless places, including newspapers, political speeches, official reports and academic life.

At present the hold of English on the upper crust of Indian intelligentsia is unshakeable and so is that of Hindi as the *lingua franca* of the common people, throughout the length and breadth of the country. Those who regard the use of English in India as a sign of slavery are to use a common phrase, barking up the wrong tree. After all, our heritage of

English is two centuries old. There is no escape now from this rich and eminently useful language.

The reality on the ground is significant in this regard. It is quite different from what the country's leaders had envisaged. In theory, Hindi is the official language of the Union while English is the "associate" official language. In practice, however, the position is the reverse, Hindi being a poor "associate", if at all. The use of Hindi as a link language in inter-State communication is equally restricted. Only a fraction of the correspondence between the Hindi-speaking States of the North is conducted in Hindi. Moreover, this language is not commonly used in communications between the Centre and the Hindi-speaking States, and rarely between the Centre and the Southern States.

Judging by what we see around us in various arenas of activity, the country seems stuck with English for good. It is the language in which almost 95 per cent of the business at the higher levels, the administration, the work of the judiciary and other professions is conducted. English has indeed become the language of communication among the elite. All international (and numerous national) conferences, seminars, etc are conducted in English. The prejudices against the study of English, therefore, need to be given up. Smooth functioning of most government offices would become difficult if efforts are now made to bring about a switch over to Hindi.

Advocates of Hindi often stress the point that patriotism demands the fullest attention to the country's own languages, especially Hindi, which is understood by the masses in many regions. Hindi should of course be popularised but until everyone accepts it willingly as the national language, there is no point in regarding the study and use of English as unpatriotic acts. Experience has shown that every vigorous drive to popularise Hindi in the South misfires and leads to adverse reactions, even tensions. There are enough controversies and agitations in the country. We should not needlessly arouse passions on the issue of language. The time has not yet come to prefer Hindi to English in the administration and in other fields. Imposition and compulsion generally prove fruitless, even counter-productive.

"Juvenile Delinquency: Causes, Crimes & Cure"

"Social discontent and rebellion are the products of social progress rather than of stagnation, for the improvement rarely keeps pace with expectations."

—Charles E. Silberman.

There are nearly 30 million orphans—mostly children and adolescents; an equal number fatherless in the same age group; and a fairly large number having fallen victims to shattered and broken homes—in India. The menace of juvenile delinquency taking a heavy toll of these immature and innocent youngsters is not an imaginary fear but a stark reality, the consequences of which are for all to see and suffer. Juvenile delinquency is not an ordinary aberration of behaviour and conduct but a serious social malaise which calls for intensive introspection and sustained curative action. The policy of dithering or drift would lead us only to the gutter and garbage, which unfortunately, is already in abundance in our social, political and economic milieu.

The causes of juvenile delinquency are not far to seek. They are under our nose and eyes; within our hearing distance. Any alibi for not attending to the gravity of the problem is an open invitation to crimes—initially minor ones like petty thefts, pick-pocketing, street-brawls, eve-teasing—but gradually giving way to hard crimes like house-breaking, smuggling, drug-trafficking, violence, suicides and even murders. The factors responsible for growing juvenile delinquency vary from one social group to the other but the most basic and decisive cause is neglect, and callous indifference towards youngsters, who, in their growing and metamorphic period of life, need attention and care. Serious emotional conflicts because of lack of love at home, absence of parental involvement in education and inconsistency in the enforcement of discipline have con-

tributed to the incidence of drop-outs from schools, the result of which has been total defiance of authority, both moral and physical.

Till recently the problem of juvenile delinquency, with its attendant adulthood crimes, was unknown to the socialist countries of Eastern Europe. But, with the restoration of democracy and more openness in the body polity of these countries, the temptation to fall for easy pleasure-cum-adolescent truancy is likely to afflict them also as it has distorted and distracted many an advanced western societies. In the West and particularly in the United States juvenile delinquency is being treated as one of the most serious maladies of the society. Millions are being spent to curb and cure the malaise by running juvenile courts, restoration homes and other corrective and creative institutions. A recent U.S. government survey has shown that each year there are more than half a million runaways and "throwaways" under the age of 18. The study defined a "throwaway" child as one who was told to get out of the home by parents who provided no alternative care. A runaway child was one who left without the permission of his parents and did not return. This phenomenon might be attributed to the breakdown of marriage and the family as social institutions in the U.S. With more divorces, the number of single-parent families are rapidly increasing and it is largely this lack of proper family life which is responsible for child delinquency, be it in the form of petty crime, drug abuse or running away from home.

As far as India is concerned, the causes of juvenile delinquency are too well known but so far no exact figures are available to show how many adult criminals have had their seeds of criminal tendencies-cum-behaviour in their juvenile period of life. All the same it is a cruel fact that most of the perpetrators of heinous crimes—

violence and militancy, inter-gang feuds leading to murders and the masquerading mafias and musclemen, to name a few dark patches—are those whose childhood and juvenile period was one of utter neglect, frustration and failure coupled with complete erosion of moral authority at home, in school and in the community.

In order to tame and trample the monster of juvenile delinquency and adulthood crimes, we must go back to the root of the problem and make children more human, tolerant, understanding, appreciative, sympathetic and helpful. This is a "social responsibility" underscoring the dictum, "No man is an island." Sociologists, social workers, teachers and above all parents, especially mothers, can play a vital role in this direction. "Catch them young" is the slogan to make world-class sportsmen. In the same way to make responsive, responsible, and socially useful adults, the need of the hour is to render juvenile period of life interesting, inspiring and inquisitive. This requires a far greater marshalling of resources and a far greater cultivation of professional skill than we have so far acknowledged. There are many organisations like the Ramakrishna Mission, the Aurobindo Society, etc which have contributed to efforts to create a national awakening, conducive to social, economic and political changes. More of such type of efforts are required from all walks of the society.

It is not always easy to keep perspective as we struggle with our young people. But a wise man, philosopher, George Santayana, once wrote some thoughtful words that can help the grown-ups dealing with the juvenile and their problems: "We must welcome the future, remembering that soon it will be the past; and we must respect the past, knowing that once it was all that was humanly possible."

New Era in Southern Africa— Victory of Enlightened Opinion

At long last the world's best known political prisoner, Dr Nelson Mandela, who is a living legend and symbolises the indomitable spirit of man, was unconditionally released after 27 years of imprisonment in a South African jail. The landmark event, on February 11, 1990, was by all accounts a turning point in South Africa's chequered history. In effect, it marked the beginning of a new era for the blacks of southern Africa—after seven decades of struggle and suffering. The "raised clenched fist"—symbol of the blacks' freedom drive—now has its day.

Nelson Mandela's release signals the gradual end of the inhuman, cruel system of apartheid. The system has not yet been abolished. The arrogant whites, obsessed with power and the prosperity, it has brought them will not soften their grip so soon. But there has been a distinct change of attitudes. Even the hard-liners concede that the time has come to negotiate. However, the blacks' demand for "one man, one vote", and equality of rights is unlikely to be granted very early. A gradual transfer of power will not pacify the South Africans.

This special feature traces the background of the events in that region, the developments which hastened the victory of the world enlightened conscience. This conscience had been consistently defied by Pretoria's arrogant white rulers, and points to the likely global repercussions.

I. Introduction

Lying at the southern tip of the African continent, with Namibia in the north and Mozambique in the north-east, South Africa includes the original white colonies of the Cape of Good Hope, Natal, Transvaal and Orange Free State. Formerly known as the Union of South Africa, the country

became a republic after its exit from the Commonwealth (it was about to be expelled because of its inhuman policies) in March, 1960.

There are about 20 million black and five million white inhabitants in South Africa. About 87 per cent of the land, including cities, ports, the rich mineral resources (gold, diamonds, uranium mines), the industries, etc., are all owned by the whites according to law. Thus one-fifth of the population possesses or occupies 87 per cent of the rich land. The remaining 13 per cent is described as the homeland of black Africans, the natives.

South Africa is the land of apartheid, basically meaning separation; it signifies racial segregation, ruthless suppression of the blacks and discrimination in all areas, including culture, and religion. This is the only country in the world which has based its entire social, political, economic, legal, educational, and cultural systems on race alone.

In blatant defiance of the elementary principles of justice, the South African constitution specifically provides that there shall be no equality between the whites and the blacks. There is institutionalised exploitation and oppression of the blacks. In the African homelands, created by the white Government, over 3.5 million Africans have been dumped. South Africa created five dummy "independent" States—Transkei, Bophuthatswana, Venda, Ciskei and Kwandebele—which have not been recognised by any country, but the hypocrisy continues. Those who advocate the cause of the blacks over the years have been imprisoned, assassinated or just made to disappear.

The basic laws on which the abominable system of apartheid is based are: (a) The Population Registration Act of 1950 which groups South Africans into fixed racial categories. It

determines where one can live, get education and work for a living; (b) The Group Areas Act, also passed in 1950, under which the white Government decides where the blacks, whites and coloureds will live. The best areas are reserved for the whites, the rest are confined to surrounding townships. Only 13 per cent of the whites live on 87 per cent of the land.

Although the new President of South Africa, Mr F.W. de Klerk, is broad-minded, he is not yet ready to end the two offensive laws which maintain white domination over millions of blacks.

II. U.N. Verdicts on Apartheid

The U.N. Security Council and the General Assembly have repeatedly condemned the South African Government for the atrocities it has committed. Actually, that racist country is socially and diplomatically boycotted by the vast majority of the world.

The Union of South Africa was formed in 1910. After World War I, the League of Nations mandated the former German colony of South-West Africa to the Union of S. Africa, which gained full independence in the British Commonwealth in 1931. In a referendum in 1960 the voters decided that South Africa would become independent outside the Commonwealth. The Republic of South Africa was proclaimed in 1961.

The origins of the highly discriminatory policy of apartheid go back to 1948 when the Nationalist Party of the Whites came to power in South Africa. The Nationalists committed themselves to a policy of apartheid, or separate development for Europeans and non-Europeans. Asians and other "coloureds" continued to be allowed to work in European areas but only under severe restrictions. The deliberately ordered inequalities in civil rights opportunities and living conditions for the racial

groups caused much unrest and violence. Millions of people around the world opposed the policy of racial discrimination. A Zulu Chief Albert Luthuli received the 1960 Nobel Prize for his struggle against this policy.

In order to continue the racial segregation the Government created 10 Bantu homelands which provide separate communities for each of major Bantu groups of the natives. The U.N. voted in 1977 not to recognise Transkei independent homeland, because of the relations to South Africa's racist policies.

In 1985 the U.N. Security Council repeatedly condemned South Africa for the atrocities it had committed. The blacks have for decades been denied basic human rights. It looked as if apartheid would never end. The U.S.A. continued to support this policy of South African whites and used its Veto power several times to turn down resolutions in the U.N. condemning South Africa and the apartheid policy.

In 1985 South African President P.W. Botha, a notorious hard-liner, rejected the "one man, one vote" principle and said there was no alternative to the policy of racial separation in violence-torn South Africa. He also declared there would be no separate chamber of parliament or for other races under the apartheid system. All the propaganda around the world in a bid to ensure justice for the blacks proved futile.

Nobel Laureate Bishop Desmond Tutu warned that South Africa was "on the brink of catastrophe". As a result of international pressure, South Africa's President announced minor concessions to the natives on September 12, 1985, notably by scrapping of "pass laws" which barred the blacks from "white areas". These pass laws had been in force since 1945. France was the only white country that came out openly in support of the African blacks and decided to apply sanctions against the White regime.

III. India's Stand

The Government and people of India have throughout supported the cause of the blacks. Their stand has been affirmed in Parliament and at international forums. On August 20, 1985, India's Prime Minister assured Parliament that India would spare no effort to bring the racist regime in

South Africa to an end. Pleading full support to the South African freedom struggle, he said India would utilise every opportunity to raise this issue at world conferences.

The efforts made by India since 1946 to help the people of South Africa in their struggle against colonialism are well known. This support will continue. India's successive Prime Ministers have assured that the country would never shirk its responsibility in fighting for freedom, justice and humanity anywhere in the world. India had cut off diplomatic and trade relations with South Africa and had stood solidly behind the freedom fighters. India had also repeatedly called for the release of Mr Mandela—a symbol of the anti-apartheid struggle.

Mahatma Gandhi played a notable role in arousing public opinion against apartheid. The Indian freedom struggle under his leadership led to similar movements against colonialism in other parts of the world.

C'wealth Sanctions: A mini-Commonwealth summit was held in London on August 4, 1986, at which Britain was virtually isolated on the issue of economic sanctions against South Africa. Six Commonwealth leaders, including those of the two leading "White" members, Canada and Australia, snubbed Mrs Thatcher for her obstinate posture on a vital issue and for preferring Britain's own economic interests over the far more vital issue of basic human rights. Britain, however, joined the other nations in their "collective disapproval of the indefensible system of apartheid".

A new alliance emerged after the deliberations of the Commonwealth summit in London, and this is led by India, Canada, Australia, Zambia and Zimbabwe. The Caribbean countries have expectedly backed the alliance.

Britain refused to abandon its stand, but the other six Commonwealth members decided to adopt harsher sanctions than those endorsed by the Nassau (Bahamas) Commonwealth summit held in October, 1985. It was decided that concerted action would be planned by the international community against South Africa.

The additional measures adopted by the six countries—India, Australia, Canada, Bahamas, Zambia and Zimbabwe—are: a ban on all new bank

loans to South Africa, whether to the public or private sectors; a ban on the import of uranium, coal, iron and steel from South Africa, and withdrawal of all consular facilities in South Africa, except for their own nationals. Britain, however, agreed to impose only five limited measures, including a voluntary ban on new investments and promotion of tourism to South Africa.

Defying world opinion insolently, President Botha hit back at its neighbours and declared that the Commonwealth sanctions would have "catastrophic results for millions of blacks". South Africa then tightened regulations on the flow of goods across its area from Zambia and Zimbabwe.

Lately, the West has become softer in respect of economic sanctions against South Africa. Proof of this came when the European Economic Community (E.E.C.) decided to apply only four of the five sanctions that its 12 member-countries had decided upon at their June, 1986, summit held at the Hague. The sanction they decided to drop (a ban on import of South African coal) could have proved more effective than the others. Apparently, as in the case of Britain, economic considerations and self-interest proved decisive.

Interestingly, the argument given by the E.E.C. was the same as earlier advanced by President Reagan—that stiff sanctions would hurt the blacks more than the whites since thousands of native labourers would become jobless. The U.S. President also diluted the sanctions approved by Congress.

The Commonwealth summit held at Vancouver (Canada) from October 13 to 16, 1987, was split on the issue of sanctions, with the majority seeking strong action and Britain opposing it. The 27th summit of Commonwealth Heads of Government (CHOGM) held at Kuala Lumpur (Oct 18-24, 1989) called for stricter financial and other sanctions against South Africa. Mrs Margaret Thatcher, as usual, had her reservations on the issue. The summit gave six months to the new regime in Pretoria to show positive steps in ending apartheid.

Mandela to visit India: Dr Mandela has accepted the invitation to visit India. During a meeting with two Indian emissaries, who arrived in South Africa with a special message

from the Prime Minister, Mr V.P. Singh, Mr Mandela talked fondly about the cordial relations between India and the African National Congress (ANC). Mr Mandela expressed his appreciation that India was the first country to raise the question of apartheid at the U.N.

Asked when India would establish a diplomatic office in South Africa, the head of the Indian observer mission in Namibia said such an office would only be opened when a non-racial and democratic Government was set up in South Africa. Until then, the Indian sanctions and pressures against the Pretoria regime would continue, he said, adding: "We fully support the strategies of the ANC."

Mr Mandela has called for a judicial commission of enquiry into violence in Natal province, which has claimed more than 2,700 lives since late 1986.

Indian Patriots' Role: On February 26 Mr Mandela expressed concern at the recent racial attacks on Indians in the Natal province of South Africa. He called on the people not to allow the forces of apartheid to sow seeds of division between Indians and Africans just when they were on their way to victory. Mr Mandela condemned the violence and said "the perpetrators of these acts are enemies of the liberation movement".

Amidst loud cheers he reminded the people of the role played by Indian patriots since 1894 and said their struggle against oppression was a shining example of Indo-African solidarity. The struggle began in Natal with the formation of the first black political organisation in Africa the Natal Indian Congress founded in 1894 by Mahatma Gandhi. In 1946 during the defiance campaigns more than 2,000 Indians were sent to jail—many for occupying land reserved for whites. The campaign made clear the common nature of Indian and African oppression. In 1947 this led to the Dadoo-Xuma-Naicker pact and the joint action of Africans and Indians against oppression of 1952.

Meanwhile, Bishop Desmond Tutu and his fellow Anglican Bishops in southern Africa have called for militant anti-apartheid groups to suspend their guerilla campaigns, a policy that puts them at odds with Mr Mandela and the ANC.

IV. New Phase

In September, 1989, a new phase began in South Africa with the election of Mr F.W. de Klerk of the country's new President in succession to Dr Botha who virtually symbolised apartheid policies. Mr de Klerk disclosed on November 26 that his country's ruling white minority had accepted that "apartheid could not succeed and that all South Africans must have a vote". This marked a change of heart.

Mr de Klerk was elected by Whites last September on a reformist platform. The National Party has now accepted that all South Africans—black, white, coloured (mixed race) and Indian—will permanently share power. "We must get away from white domination". Mr de Klerk's Government expressed willingness to negotiate with Mr Mandela's African National Congress (ANC), the main group fighting to end white minority rule. He feels that the time had come for the international community to support Pretoria's efforts for change.

Asked when South Africa's 30 million blacks will be free, Mr de Klerk said "as soon as possible" is the short answer. "Black people will be free the moment that we can reach an accord. Our goal is to ensure that all the citizens of this country will become first class citizens." He showed signs of reversing the decisions of Dr Botha, (his predecessor) and promised liberalisation and justice to all Africans. On February 2, 1990, Mr Klerk announced sweeping political changes and lifting of the ban on the African National Congress (ANC), besides release of Dr Mandela, partial lifting of the emergency, besides removal of restrictions on 374 blacks who were human rights activists. He outlined major concessions in a bid to persuade black leaders to enter into negotiations on "a shared future" in South Africa. All exiles are now free to return home; the death penalty will no longer be mandatory, all executions would be suspended and the state of emergency will be terminated as soon as possible.

Along with ANC, the Pan-Africanist Congress, the South African Communist Party and about 30 other organisations have been freed of emergency regulations. Many other political persons sent to jail because of their political affiliations are also being released.

While most reactions have been positive, the right-wing Conservative Party and other ultra-right wing organisations of Whites have announced their intention to frustrate Mr de Klerk's reforms. The leader of the Conservative Party said that the President had no mandate to lift the ban on ANC and release Dr Mandela.

The African National Congress has reiterated that it will not halt its military campaign and ruled out an early return of its headquarters from exile in Zambia. The notion of unilaterally abandoning armed struggle is out of the question. Any cessation of hostilities will have to be negotiated and will arise out of a mutually binding cease-fire. The Pan-African Congress of South Africa (PAC) will also continue the armed struggle despite the lifting of the ban on anti-apartheid organisations.

V. Mandela's terms for Talks

Dr Mandela has somewhat shifted his stand regarding talks with the white regime in Pretoria to settle the differences over political participation and bringing about a national reconciliation. At first he was firm and rejected all suggestions for direct negotiations with President de Klerk. Later he climbed down and expressed his willingness to reach a compromise. On February 24 he indicated that the African National Congress (ANC) is willing to compromise with the South African Government but democratic elections must precede negotiations on the country's future.

Since his release on February 11, Dr Mandela has reaffirmed his support for the ANC's economic policies, which call for nationalisation of mines, banks and monopoly industries. He and other ANC officials have sought to reassure white businessmen, saying economic issues should be subject to negotiation and compromise. Mr Mandela said the only way of determining who will be involved in the talks on the future of the country is through democratic elections.

Every person who participates in negotiations must be properly mandated and the only way of giving authority to the people who will sit at the negotiating table is through democratic elections. I can't imagine that the people who will go to the negotiating table will be hand-picked by any of the parties involved.

Dr Mandela believes there is sufficient goodwill to reconcile Black demands for "one man, one vote" with White fears of what that might mean for them. "There is sufficient goodwill to reconcile these two points", the African National Congress (ANC) leader was quoted as saying in an interview, to "Time" magazine. "The ANC is certainly ready to address the fears of Whites", Dr Mandela told the American news weekly when asked if such reconciliation was possible.

When Mandela was jailed 27 years ago, he was the Deputy President of the ANC and Commander-in-Chief of the "Spear of the Nation", the ANC's military wing. The then head of the organisation, Chief Albert Luthuli, died under mysterious circumstances in 1967 and Oliver Tambo became the President-General of the ANC in exile as Mandela was in jail. But to the majority of the South African blacks, Mandela has been the natural leader of their movement. His years in jail have only added to his popularity. He has again become Vice-President of the ANC.

The task facing Dr Mandela is a complex one in view of the fact that the South African blacks have half a dozen movements having divergent ideologies. True, they all want black majority rule, but each group has separate leaders who disagree on the mode of achieving their goal. There are impatient black youth having a revolutionary fervour. Then there are rival organisations which question the ANC's claim to represent the majority of blacks and has always sought a non-racial democratic South Africa. There is the Mass Democratic Movement comprising trade Unions and the United Democratic Front. It is the ANC's main partner. The Pan-Africanist Congress is among the main critics of the ANC. The blacks also have a Consciousness Movement which rejects the ANC's multi-racial approach.

VI. Assurance to Whites

Since his release, Dr Mandela's public utterances have generally fallen short of the expectations of many Whites and some Blacks who had anticipated the kind of inspirational vision that distinguished Martin Luther King in the American civil rights struggle of the 1960s. A notable exception has been his assurance that Whites should not fear the future.

"We are aware of the fears of the Whites in this country of being dominated by blacks and we are addressing that very seriously", Dr Mandela said outside his Soweto house.

The black nationalist leader, dignified and articulate, has cut an impressive figure as he has clearly evinced a lack of bitterness over his lost years. But his first words, delivered at a rally, revealed that he has not changed since he was imprisoned more than 27 years ago, and neither has the African National Congress. "I am a loyal and disciplined member of the ANC", Dr Mandela said, "I am, therefore, in full agreement with all of its objectives, strategies and tactics."

But if Dr Mandela reflected the views of the Congress through his rhetoric, he was also distancing himself from the outlook of the Black groups that were formed during his imprisonment. Dr Mandela, who abounds in the charisma of a national leader, said he would journey to Lusaka, in neighbouring Zambia, to ask exiled leaders how the freedom movement planned to use him.

He called for continuing guerilla warfare and Western sanctions to bring down the White minority government that freed him. He confirmed that he supported the nationalization of mines and other vital areas of the economy, which sent waves through the Johannesburg stock and foreign exchange markets. Thus the policies long advocated by the ANC and its ally were forcefully reiterated.

Dr Mandela did not follow the practice of politicians who deliver different speeches for their political constituencies and the larger world. He displayed the virtue of consistency and his rhetoric was not what most Whites wanted to hear. Some Whites felt that President Frederik W. de Klerk, who took a political risk in releasing Dr Mandela, had been given faint praise. The black leader called Mr de Klerk "a man of integrity", but qualified this by saying that he had not done enough.

"If Mandela comes in with this kind of jargon, he's going to cause de Klerk to lose his power base, and de Klerk is the only man who can save this country", the lawyer said, referring to the pressure on the President from the White rightists. Other sympathetic Whites said he had missed

an opportunity to galvanise all South Africans. Some blacks assumed he had the solutions. "It's like a dream come true", said a neighbour of Dr Mandela. "His coming home means our saviour is here. Everything is going to be all right."

U.K. Lifts Sanctions: Defying world opinion once again on the issue of sanctions, Britain's "Iron Lady", Mrs Margaret Thatcher, announced that she had lifted the ban on investments in South Africa. Her defence was that the "racist" regime had already made a good beginning towards reforms by releasing Dr Mandela and cancelling the ban on the African National Congress.

The British Government maintained that it was important to make a "symbolic but practical response" to the reform moves made by the South African President. It also attacked the "humbug" that was spoken about sanctions. Rev Dr Frank Chikane, General Secretary of the South African Council of Churches, described the British action as "outrageous". Barring Portugal, no other EEC member could be convinced that the time was now ripe to ease pressures on the South African Government. Labour leaders described Mrs Thatcher to be "the last friend of apartheid". They said that because of Mrs Thatcher's policies, Britain has been isolated and also humiliated by its allies.

Mrs Thatcher is keen to intensify contacts with Mr Nelson Mandela, who has been invited to Britain for talks. By taking unilateral action, Britain has displeased some of its EEC partners.

U.S. May Reconsider Sanctions: In the light of the "stunning cascade" of events in South Africa, the time has come to consider re-evaluating US sanctions against Pretoria, a senior US official indicated towards the close of February. Presenting one of the US Administration's most optimistic assessments to date of the prospects for fundamental change under the new South African President, the Assistant Secretary of State said "in my opinion, the end of officially sanctioned racial oppression in South Africa is on the horizon". He predicted that Mr de Klerk, following the release of anti-apartheid leader and the legalisation of black political groups, could meet other conditions needed for lifting US sanctions in three months. The sanctions imposed by Congress in 1986

over the veto of the then President, Mr Ronald Reagan, were believed to be one of the factors contributing to the change in South Africa. But further punitive economic measures would send "confusing signals" to South Africa and could do more in damaging a post-apartheid economy than in helping to bring about a non-racial system.

VII. UN Panel for Stronger Sanctions

The 43-nation UN Human Rights Commission on February 28, 1990, voted 35-2 to issue a new call for widened international sanctions against South Africa to support the country's black majority in fighting apartheid policies. While the commission welcomed the release of Mr Mandela and the lifting of some restrictions on anti-apartheid groups, it made it clear that sanctions already adopted by certain countries are commended to the wider international community for urgent adoption and implementation.

Britain and the US were the only commission members to oppose the resolution which urged that existing measures against South Africa not be relaxed "until there is clear evidence of profound and irreversible change".

Kaunda's exhortation: Zambian President Dr Kenneth Kaunda, appealed to progressive forces in the world to cash in on the "heat of the present moment" to strengthen the struggle against apartheid and get the negotiations started between the African National Congress and the Pretoria regime.

Dr Mandela, who arrived in Lusaka the previous day to an ecstatic reception, met leaders of the six frontline States in southern Africa and conferred with the Commonwealth Secretary-General, Sir Shridath Ramphal, and members of the ANC headquarters.

Dr Kaunda said all positive pressure against apartheid that have made the present climate possible must remain in place. "Sanctions were a key weapon for change." As long as the pillars of apartheid remained in place, firm and intact, apartheid remained the order of life in South Africa. He noted that for the leaders of the struggle to be let out of jail to experience apartheid in daily life was not freedom. Freedom would only come when apartheid pieces of legis-

lation like the Land Act and Group Areas Act were scrapped.

PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat, who flew down to the Zambian capital to meet Dr Mandela, presented a golden sword to the 72-year old ANC leader saying he was presenting it "in the name of all freedom fighters".

Dr Mandela asserted that the South African Government will have to comply with certain pre-conditions if the ANC were to open negotiations with it. The pre-conditions include lifting of the state of emergency, release of political prisoners and allow ANC exiles to return without fear of prosecution and take part in consultations.

VIII. The Future

The dramatic and wholly welcome developments of the past six months or so make certain things clear.

(a) The victory of the long struggle for freedom against racist tyranny by 26 million black people of South Africa, is a landmark event ending the political stalemate in that country and clearing the way for negotiations on power sharing between the blacks and the whites.

(b) The hated and widely condemned policy of apartheid racial discrimination and denial of human rights to the blacks, in defiance of world opinion—will probably end soon. The cause of justice has triumphed. The grant of equal rights to the blacks will indeed be a historic event in the African continent. It is a turning point and marks the onset of a new era.

(c) While the credit for this notable achievement will go to the people of Africa who have been fighting for justice and basic rights for decades, the countries, including India, which have been consistently bringing pressure on the arrogant whites of Pretoria, together of course with the U.N. which has since 1970 been passing strongly worded resolutions condemning apartheid and censuring the white regime's conduct, have good reason to take comfort on the achievement. Mr de Klerk deserves credit for starting the process of justice. The Pretoria regime has caved in to trade sanctions imposed by the international community, though these were half-hearted in many cases. South Africa had to face economic difficulties which compelled a policy

modification at last.

(d) Unlike freedom fighters who have spent decades in imprisonment and suffered humiliation and brutalities at the hands of their captors, Dr Nelson Mandela has proved to be liberal minded, free of bitterness and is not overpowered by the feelings of revenge.

Announcing his resolve to continue the struggle for "one person, one vote" in a unitary State, and against white domination, he has expressed willingness to compromise on black political demands, narrowing the gulf between once implacable enemies—the African National Congress and South Africa's white minority Government. Mr Klerk is a flexible leader, not a rigid reactionary like his predecessors. Though he is not willing yet to cancel the basic laws that have created apartheid, the prospects of a political settlement are bright because of the conciliatory policy adopted by Dr Mandela.

(e) The economic sanctions enforced by many countries, including the West, are not to end yet. The African National Congress, the Front Line States of Africa, the U.S.A. and the E.E.C. have all resolved to continue the sanctions until the entire apparatus of apartheid is dismantled. This indicates the strength of world opinion on this issue. Britain has however chalked out a different line and has announced withdrawal of even such limited curbs as it had imposed.

(f) The African National Congress and the other democratic movements (there is a sharp split among their leaders) aim at ensuring a climate of free political activity for all organisations. The freedom campaigners rightly demand the release of all prisoners, repeal of the repressive legislation which led to their armed struggle.

(g) The Africans insist that the climate for talks should be created on an equal footing. An impartial organisation must oversee the process of transition. A transitional government acceptable to all parties should ensure that all the groups concerned enjoy equal treatment and should set up a force made up essentially of South Africans.

(h) A few reactionary and prejudiced white countries apart, the wide world will support the oppressed people's demand for equality, justice and democracy.

India's Costliest Misadventure

The final withdrawal of the Indian Army from Sri Lanka marked the end of a costly adventure in a foreign land. What are the pluses and the minuses of the IPKF's prolonged stay in an atmosphere marked by hostility and frustration all round? Does it call for changes in India's diplomacy?

On March 24, 1990, a week before the scheduled date for total de-induction of the Indian army by the Government of India, the Indian Peace-keeping Force (IPKF) withdrew from the strife-torn island republic of Sri Lanka. The Indian Army did what was deemed to be its duty and fulfilment of a commitment. It paid heavily for the military operations, both financially (about Rs 1.5 crore daily during 2½ years) and in terms of lives of military personnel lost (1155 killed and hundreds of others injured).

What is more, instead of earning gratitude and cheers of the Sri Lankans, our army was humiliated, insulted and jeered by the very people whose interests it sought to protect and in quest of whose security India made sacrifices beyond measure. The bitterness against our military personnel was unbelievable. We fought another country's war and suffered for it. It was indeed a pity that the very presence of the IPKF, and the role India has played in Sri Lanka, have become controversial. In fact, the politico-military role of the IPKF has been described by critics as perhaps the biggest foreign policy blunder since Independence.

The intentions were commendable, but almost all the calculations went wrong. The country was even suspected of having aggressive intentions and of betraying the cause it professed to serve. The extent of the misunderstandings among the people of Sri Lanka can be judged from the recent remark of Sri Lanka's Foreign Minister, Mr Ranjan Wijeratne, that "Indian bureaucrats and Generals are a pack of liars".

The Sri Lanka tangle became

multi-faceted, with the Tamils split among themselves, the sharpening, irreconcilable differences between LTTE and its rivals, the EPRLF and the ENDLF trying to outflank LTTE and the Government of Sri Lanka going out of its way to win over LTTE as a last resort.

Gains & Losses: Although the general impression is that their intervention in Sri Lanka has been a gross miscalculation and has brought us much discredit instead of gains and gratitude, a closer examination indicates that both India and Sri Lanka have benefited to some extent:

(a) The Rajiv Gandhi-Jayewardene accord of July, 1987, helped to avert Western intervention, especially by the U.S.A., in the affairs of the Indian sub-continent. If India had not stepped in, it was almost certain that the Sri Lankan Government would have invited the U.S. to assist in restoring peace because Sri Lanka's own army is much too small to meet the challenges posed by the terrorists, the LTTE militants, and tackle the situation created by the ethnic riots. Thus, India established its claim to be the principal regional power. Before the 1987 accord, Sri Lanka had been involving foreign parties outside the region in its effort to crush the LTTE. This affected India adversely.

(b) Today there is a reasonable prospect of a settlement of the ethnic dispute that has torn Sri Lanka apart. This is largely because of India's action. The country would in effect have been partitioned and plunged into a bloody civil war. It was the IPKF's action against the LTTE that finally made the latter see reason.

(c) Most people agree that the accord was very timely since it was signed when the island republic was in great distress. The legal position and the importance of the agreement were explained by President Jayewardene in a letter to Mr Rajiv Gandhi on July 22, 1989. In an interview, he said the accord saved this country from a disastrous situation and the Sri Lankans should be grateful to India for

what it has done for them. "Indian soldiers have died and Indian money has been spent on our behalf", he conceded.

But in a letter to Mr Rajiv Gandhi he wrote: "If the Indo-Lanka Agreement is construed as creating an obligation for the Indian armed forces to remain in Sri Lankan territory without the concurrence and against the express wishes of the Sri Lankan Government, then as President of an independent, sovereign republic he would have no option but to treat the agreement as inimical to Lanka's sovereignty and national interests."

(d) It is true that the IPKF failed in its primary task of disarming LTTE and maintaining peace and order in the troubled island. True also that the IPKF got bogged down in the quagmire of Tamil ethnic rivalry and was no match for the Tiger guerrillas fighting on homeground. An Indian officer rightly contended that it was not easy to fight with one hand tied to our backs. If we went all out for the Tigers, we could have smashed them. But the consequences of fighting a force so intermingled with the civilians that it was difficult to hit one without affecting the other were frightening. On the one hand, the IPKF was told to win the hearts and minds of the people, on the other it had to fight the LTTE, which had its support base among the majority of the Tamils, especially in the north.

The civilians naturally resented the constant searches and the innumerable road blocks, all of which were made worse by the language barrier. However, if the Tigers got away with an attack on either the IPKF or the north-eastern Provincial Government, the army got the blame.

Finally, the IPKF had also to run the civil administration, a task for which it is not trained. The Indian Army had to ensure that buses ran, railway tracks remained clear of explosives and that supplies from Colombo reached the people. According to the General Officer Commanding of the IPKF in Sri Lanka, Gen

Kalkat, his men have fulfilled the objectives for which they had come. The IPKF was sent, said the General, to ensure the unity and integrity of Sri Lanka, and this was done by fighting the group which refused to accept the accord. The second Indian objective was to make sure that the ethnic problem was resolved politically. This is what is happening at the moment.

Gen Kalkat also made it clear that if it was not for the Indian Army, which made the going difficult for the Tigers, they would never have agreed to talk to President Premadasa to work out a political solution. The General praised the Sri Lankan army, saying that by and large it honoured its commitments and remained in the barracks as promised in the Indo-Sri Lankan Accord.

Tamil Refugees' Problem: With the IPKF pull-out from the north and north-eastern areas where they provided protection to the Tamils, the latter have been feeling very nervous and deeply worried over their security. Hundreds of them have been fleeing from Sri Lanka in search of safety. The LTTE want to rule the N.-E. province and eliminate everyone else. The LTTE militants have in fact been itching for revenge and plundering the civilian areas inhabited by the Tamils. The mass influx of refugees into India is posing a problem. They are not welcomed anywhere. Tamil Nadu feels it has had enough of them; no more additional burdens are to be permitted. A whole shipload of Tamil refugees from northern Sri Lanka was not permitted to disembark in Madras. Boatloads of Tamils have landed in transit camps.

One reason why the Tamils are not being welcomed is that scores of them are militants belonging to EPRLF, ENDLF, TELO and PLOTE. Though the militants claim to have left their weapons behind in 'safe' places on the island, this is not true. Recently, there was a large haul of arms (including AK-47 rifles), rocket launchers and missiles in a Tamil Nadu town. The general impression is that wherever the Tamil militants are allowed to stay, there will be trouble sooner or later. In fact, shrewd observers have expressed the fear that Tamil Nadu itself may soon become a battlefield of LTTE militants infiltrating into Indian soil and starting manoeuvres to eliminate their rivals.

New Twists in Sri Lanka: In February and March this year the Tamil Nadu Chief Minister, Mr Karunanidhi, attempted mediation in the dispute between the rival Tamil parties in Sri Lanka. But the move failed. EPRLF, the ENDLF outflank and the LTTE, the Tamil parties dominating the N.-E. Provincial Council adopted a resolution converting the Council into a constituent assembly for a separate State of Eelam. This is how they sought to rebuff the LTTE after the latter's success in virtually wiping out their so-called Tamil National Army. The resolution was believed to be not a declaration of Eelam but "a preparation". The Sri Lankan Government knew that the EPRLF-ENDLF's threat of reviving the movement for Eelam could not be serious because the two parties do not command much popular support. The effort proved abortive.

Oddly enough, the Tamil Tigers, who were at one time the cause of serious trouble for the island, and had refused to lay down arms, are now cooperating with the Premadasa administration. Admitting this, Foreign Minister Ranjan Wijeratne said in mid-March that the armed militants of the LTTE and Sri Lankan policemen "are working side by side" in some of the areas vacated by the IPKF. A "little familiarisation", he asserted, would help the LTTE cadres as "they have to join the Sri Lankan police and security forces" some day. The Minister was apparently referring to the ongoing peace talks between the LTTE and the Sri Lankan government to find a solution.

Lessons of Episode: Certain lessons need to be learnt from this country's unhappy experiences in Sri Lanka during the period July 1987 to March 1990.

(a) No Indian force should be sent to a foreign country, however intense the sufferings of the people there and even if millions of them are of Indian origin (as the Tamils are) unless this country's security is directly endangered. In any case, no foreign force should ever stay on a territory against the wishes of that country's government. In Sri Lanka the Premadasa Government repeatedly demanded the pull-out of Indian forces. But, on the plea that the IPKF had not yet fulfilled its commitments, the Government of India postponed the withdrawal, thus earning the wrath

of the Sinhalese and creating tensions between the two countries. India has lost much goodwill in the process.

(b) The Government should not utilise the army for achieving political objectives. India should not fight other people's wars. It has enough problems to tackle within the country. Indian military personnel were pushed into impossible situations for which they were neither trained nor adequately equipped. The LTTE whose cause India had championed became, ironically, an enemy of the IPKF. Since the IPKF was in effect battling against the Tamils, public opinion in Tamil Nadu became hostile to the Government of India. This had political repercussions. LTTE are back in a position of predominance.

(c) The cost of the Sri Lanka operations has been prohibitive—Rs 400 crore annually—a sharp dent in our defence outlays. This has adversely affected the modernisation process of our military equipment. Some people have even described Sri Lanka as India's Vietnam; a superior 60,000 strong force failed to impose its military will on a few thousand Liberation Tigers. Besides, the "regional giant" did not succeed in imposing its will on the tiny republic's President. A careful review of our diplomacy is evidently called for.

The Tamils' problem, which India has been anxious to solve, acquired a new dimension early in April this year when Mr Prabhakaran, the most wanted guerrilla leader came out of 30 months' hiding and boasted that his force had been able to defeat the world's fourth largest army. That, he asserted, should be a lesson to those who supported IPKF's presence. India, he added, should realise that "it cannot win politically or militarily against LTTE".

He urged that the new Government of India, headed by Mr V.P. Singh, should initiate talks "to renew the relationship with us." LTTE does not appear to be against the Indian Government or the Indian people now. The assertions made by the guerrilla leader indicate that LTTE will try to solve the Sri Lanka problems in the democratic way but, failing that, it will fight. Its first aim will be to win the hearts of the people. If the new postures are any indication, there would soon be a settlement which would end the prolonged strife and bloodshed.

Minority Govts: Problems & Pitfalls

India is currently experiencing a relatively new phenomenon of minority governments backed by majority of legislators. This has created novel situations, new alignments, provisional understandings and working arrangements, all characterised by compromises. Can such crisis-prone administrations prove effective and durable?

Under a parliamentary system, as commonly understood, the majority party forms the Government, while the minority parties form the opposition. The majority seeks constantly to retain its hold on the seats of power and keep the party strength intact. The minority groups in the opposition function as watchdogs, constantly on the look-out for opportunities to find fault with the majority party and replace it whenever possible. Thus there is always a viable alternative. This is the position that has prevailed all along in Britain—the classic example of a sound parliamentary system. And thus has also been the position in India ever since it became a parliamentary democracy in 1950.

But as a result of the November, 1989, Lok Sabha elections this country witnessed the first minority government at the Centre, though it is supported by a majority of the M.P.s. For the first time the largest political party—the Congress(I)—is in the opposition; almost all the non-Congress groups, big and small, Rightist and Leftists, have joined hands to back the National Front led by Mr V.P. Singh. The strength of the parties in the present Lok Sabha indicates the relative position and the numerical strength and weaknesses of the two sides.

While the Congress (I) has 193 members in the 545-strong Lok Sabha, the Janata Dal has 141, the BJP (the principal supporter of the National Front) has 88, the CPI-M has 32, the CPI 12, AIADMK 11, Con-

gress (S) 1, JMM 3, IUML 1, IUML-S 2, Kerala Congress (M) 1, Independents and others 16; Indian People's Front 1, Telegu Desam 2, Forward Bloc 3, UCPI 1, NC 3, RSP 4, Akali Dal (Mann) 6, BSP 3 and the Sikkim Sangram Parishad 1.

It is clear that the non-Congress parties together have a larger strength in the House than the Congress (I), though the latter is the largest single party. The Janata Dal, which is currently in power, has only 141 members. As Prime Minister V.P. Singh said, this is a minority government with majority backing—that of the partners of the National Front, the BJP and the CPM. The latter two are basically hostile to each other and, interestingly, neither would support the Government if the other becomes a co-sharer of power with the Janata Dal. The bond that keeps them together, on the same side of the Treasury benches—opposition divide, is a negative one—to keep the Congress(I) out of power.

Along with the BJP and the CPM, the Congress (I) assured "constructive cooperation" to the new Government, but the subsequent attitudes and utterances of its leader, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, betray a lack of the requisite constructive spirit.

As postulated by the President of India, Mr R. Venkataraman, Mr V.P. Singh obtained a vote of confidence from Parliament during its very first session late in December. Thus the minority Government appears to be well set for a much longer tenure than the Congress (I) was initially inclined to permit it.

Problems of Minority Govt: Whether in a minority (like the present National Front), or commanding a massive majority of 400 (as the Congress-I did in the previous Lok Sabha), the Government is required to carry on the administration to the best of its capacity. The task of a minority

government in this respect is much more difficult because it has to constantly look over the shoulder to ensure that it does not tread on the toes of any of the groups supporting it. Some of these groups, as is well known, have conflicting ideologies and have apparently irreconcilable election manifestos. Even so, in the pursuance of a common cause they prefer not to press such items in their economic and political programmes as are wholly unacceptable to the other partners.

Thus, flexibility of attitudes rather than rigid policies characterise the minority Government. The measures so far taken, and the legislative and other achievements of the National Front Government, pertain to areas where the viewpoints converge: (a) removal of corruption and appointment of Lok Pal, (b) ensuring autonomy of the electronic mass media (TV and Radio), (c) extension of reservations for Scheduled Castes and Tribes, and (d) repeal of the draconian 59th Constitutional amendment which empowered the Government to impose emergency in Punjab.

A minority government, because of its inherent weakness and make-up flaws, cannot be a strong and assertive one. It cannot afford to displease any of its constituents whose support is vital to its existence and survival: so it chalks out a middle course.

In the formation of the ministry the leader (in effect the Prime Minister) cannot take the risk of leaving any group unrepresented. So each group has at least one Minister at some level or other—Cabinet, Minister of State, Parliamentary Secretary or other rung of the ministerial hierarchy. Because of this political compulsion, merit and talent of which there may be a surfeit in one supporting group and paucity in the others, have often to be sacrificed and even legislators of mediocre or even lesser capacity appointed Ministers. This compulsion

of giving ministerial representation to all groups, big and small, is absent when the majority party itself forms the Government on its own massive strength (as the Congress I possessed during Mr Rajiv Gandhi's regime)

Again, in a minority government the resignation of a Minister, especially a senior one, cannot be taken lightly. Since every such resignation threatens to create a crisis (as Mr Devi Lal's resignation did in March, 1990), all-out efforts are made by all the constituents to end it anyhow.

The limitations of party strength become all too evident because of the Anti-Defection law. Since no legislator can switch loyalties or change sides without seeking a re-election, the lure of ministerial or other office cannot easily change the party position in the House. Political horse-trading is ruled out to a large extent.

The case for constituting a national government acquires an additional dimension when there is a minority regime in office. It is no wonder that Mr V.P. Singh, Mr Chandra Shekhar and Mr Devi Lal (the Janata Dal leaders) generally welcomed the idea of a national government in principle, when the post-election picture was not quite clear. The Congress-I spokesman said his party would consider the idea if it came from the President. In fact, many in the country were pleased with the idea of a government of national unity. It seemed to be in tune with the national ethos, the tradition of integration and the compulsions of the new political situation. But the concept did not materialise.

Under our first-past-the post electoral system, a party with even less than 50 per cent of the votes can easily collect 75 per cent of the seats and then exercise 100 per cent power. It is democratic in form but undemocratic in spirit. In the USA various committees of the two Houses, which are bipartisan and very powerful, can veto the President's proposals, and even appointments made by him, thus rectifying the flaws. But the various parliamentary consultative committees in India are largely powerless; so the correctives are not applicable.

Obviously, a broad-based national government would give a sense of satisfaction and participation to all the people. It could make for all-round cooperation and, as a result, for

quicker and better development of the country. A national government could include the best talent from all the parties. In such a government, everybody would be on his best behaviour, competing in excellence and integrity. Much of the corruption so far has been due to the fact that we have had a one-man party and a one-party government. A national government that includes leftists, rightists and others, would perhaps be able to prevent such misdeeds, each group serving as a check on the other.

Minority Regimes in States: The voters' verdict in the elections held for eight State Assemblies and the Union Territory of Pondicherry late in February confirmed the trends of the Lok Sabha poll last November through expression of the people's general dissatisfaction with the existing administrations and their desire for a change. Even more significant from the standpoint of majority and minority governments is the fact that in the traditional Congress stronghold of Maharashtra, in the notoriously mismanaged and unruly State of Bihar and also in Rajasthan, minority governments with majority support from certain well-entrenched groups from outside, assumed office on the pattern of the Centre.

(a) In Maharashtra the Congress (I) secured a triumph, amidst a sea of gloom, winning 142 seats out of a total of 288, a few seats short of an absolute majority. The party has thus to keep the pro-Congress groups happy by giving them ministerial berths and otherwise. All the other parties put together (especially the Shiv Sena 51, BJP 42, Janata Dal 25) won a large number of seats, depriving the Congress (I) of the assured strength it had earlier.

(b) In Bihar also there is a minority government, the Janata Dal, which won 121 seats, forming the ministry, though considerably short in strength for an absolute majority. It survives with the affirmed support of the BJP (37), CPI (23), CPM (6) and JMM 19. On March 21, the ministry headed by Mr L.P. Yadav (Janata Dal) secured a vote of confidence, almost non-Congress groups backing it.

(c) In Rajasthan the largest group is the BJP (85 members in a House of 200). Since the Janata Dal (54) is supporting the ministry from outside, there is no danger of the Government

being overthrown, though on its own the ruling party lacks a majority.

(d) In Pondicherry, the ruling alliance has a bare majority of only one. Interestingly, the lone independent M.L.A. has been won over by appointing him a Minister. The Government comprises diverse elements and cannot regard itself as stable.

Conclusion: Ministries which enjoy comfortable majorities tend to become arrogant and even corrupt. From their citadels of safety, they tend to ignore the public interest and fail in their duty. Because of their intrinsic numerical weakness, minority governments are weak, often ineffective and unable to fulfil the electoral commitments made by their principal constituents. Their preoccupation is political survival. Some of them survive on borrowed time and have to live from crisis to crisis. But in all such cases the inter-group differences and jealousies are disregarded for the time-being because these, if pressed, would bring about the downfall of their own Government.

For the instability and ineffectiveness of the government in their area the electorate itself has to be blamed. Minority governments are a sequel to the indecisive, confusing voting patterns. True, the resultant party strength and the unclear verdicts are due to the multiplicity of parties and candidates. When there are one-to-one straight contests as a result of understandings on sharing of seats, the picture is clear and unambiguous. It is in the national interest to promote such conflict-free situations.

Moreover, whenever the Government is weak (as minority set-ups generally are) the bureaucracy becomes strong and assertive. This was the experience of France some decades ago when the governments changed with the political weather and few could be certain who would be in power the next day.

A sense of service to the people should certainly be observed by government servants. The style of functioning of civil servants at all levels must indeed reflect the socio-economic realities. Whether this would be assured under minority regimes is highly doubtful. There are many pitfalls and temptations to exploit the situation; and Indian politicians are not known for a high degree of integrity and honesty.

Area Planning to Banish Rural Poverty

India was, and still is, poor. Forty long years of planning involving expenditure of crore of rupees, which the country could ill afford, and labour and time have failed to banish it. Should the plan strategy be discarded? What should be the new strategy? This feature attempts answers to these vital questions

The problem of rural area should be comprehended and analysed in a framework of multi-discipline, multi-sectoral and multi-spatial level approach to planning for meeting the basic challenges of rural poverty.

—An economist

I. Introduction

Poverty has been the target of attack of India since long before the attainment of Independence. The strategy of war against poverty has undergone a fundamental change with the advent of planning in early 1950. Massive investment in terms of time and money has gone into the anti-poverty programmes. The realization of the goal however remains a distant dream. What, if any, are the lacunae in the plans? Are the challenges confronting the nation too formidable to be overcome?

II. Dimensions of Poverty

The magnitude of poverty can be ascertained only by identifying as to who are the poor and where do they live. This question arises because poverty is a multi-dimensional phenomenon. It signifies not only monetary but non-monetary elements such as health, education, housing etc.

While there is no unanimity among the economists on the basic concept of poverty, the Planning Commission has computed poverty level in terms of consumption expenditure as determined by the nutritional requirements of a household. The minimum level of expenditure is termed as the poverty line, which is,

actually, a moving line. Among the factors influencing its position is the price level. Prices and the poverty line have a positive correlation. That is, the higher the prices and the less the value of money, the less is the purchasing power and the greater the incidence of poverty.

The price level during the period between 1960-61 and 1984-85 has increased five and a half times in rural areas and five times in urban areas. The cut-off point for poverty has therefore been pushed up. Dandekar and Rath fixed it at Rs 15 for rural areas and Rs 22.50 for urban area at 1960-61 prices; and at Rs 23.66 and Rs 40.50 respectively at 1968-69 prices; the Planning Commission at Rs 77 and Rs 88 respectively at 1979-80 prices and Rs 107 and Rs 122 respectively at 1984-85 prices. (All figures are the minimum per capita consumption level per month). At present the poverty line denotes a consumption expenditure per household of Rs 6400 per annum. In other words, a family with an annual income of less than this is deemed below the poverty line. During the seventh five year plan, a family with an income of Rs 4800 per annum was treated as the poorest of the poor and given first preference for assistance over the one with a higher income.

The population below the poverty line in 1977-78 was estimated at 48 per cent of the total population. It was to be reduced to 37 per cent in 1984-85, 26 per cent in 1989-90 below 10 per cent in 1994-95 and virtual elimination by the year 2000 A.D. The "projected" virtual elimination of rural poverty in a space of barely ten years from now sounds unattainable, given the small and fragmented land holdings, continuing dependence on agriculture and the galloping population.

In absolute terms the population below the poverty line has decreased from 307 million in 1977-78 to 273

million in 1984-85 and to 211 million in 1989-90, the bulk of this improvement being in the rural areas. In relative terms, however, the situation is just the opposite. The Lorenz ratio of the rural and the urban areas has been showing wider gaps.

The official claim that 62 million people have crossed the poverty line during the seventh five year plan is questioned by critics. It is argued that the growth per se has brought no improvement in the living standards; that the 'Hindu rate of growth' of 3.5 per cent per annum is not adequate for a population increasing at 2.5 per cent annually; due to the pressure of population on land, the average size of operational holdings has declined to 1.84 hectare from 2.28 hectare over the decade 1970-80; the number of marginal farmers (with holdings below one hectare) and agricultural landless labourers has gone up sizably; the decline in the poverty ratio has been due to the "pulling up" of the richest among the poor and not the upliftment of the poorest of the poor; the rich-poor chasm has widened exacerbating social discontent; the inter-regional inequalities have not diminished mainly because of the uneven development of agriculture and industries in the various States/regions. Unharmonious growth and development has resulted in islands of affluence and oceans of poverty.

III. Past Strategies

Jawaharlal Nehru, the father of Indian planning, modelled development after the Russian pattern. Exercises in economic development were undertaken by the Planning Commission and the State governments toed the same line. It was centralised planning on a macro-level basis and the States formulated plans within the national plan-frame.

Growth with social justice and balanced development have been the central objectives of all plans. The

results have however been vastly different. No doubt, there has been impressive increase in the output of goods and services. The national income cake is bigger. A growth rate of 10.4 per cent in gross domestic product at factor cost at constant (1980-81) prices was registered in 1988-89, thanks to 21.3 per cent addition in foodgrain production in that year compared to 1987-88. But this gain in GDP is not equitably shared. That is, the gains from planning have not percolated to the lowest rung of the societal ladder. Not only this. The regional as well as sectoral imbalances have emerged pronouncedly. Some States like the Punjab, Haryana, Maharashtra and West Bengal have prospered while others such as Bihar have lagged behind in the race.

IV. New Strategy

The "trickle down" theory of growth that pervaded the planning process so far has failed to deliver the goods. Consequently, there is a shift in emphasis in the growth concept. It is now widely recognised that it is not enough to have an enlarged national income. It must also lead to improvement in the quality of life. There is nothing new in this. Nehru, while inaugurating the Planning Commission on March 15, 1950, said that its objective would be to promote "a rapid rise in the standard of living of the people, efficient exploitation of resources, increasing production and offering opportunities to everyone for employment in the service of the community." (Italics added). The re-constituted Commission is picking up the thread again with renewed determination.

Mr V.P. Singh, Prime Minister-cum-Chairman of the Planning Commission, has said that "there is a national consensus now on the need for decentralisation of the planning process". It is not the first time that the focus is being shifted from centralised to decentralised planning. The earlier plans too have emphasised its necessity and desirability. The community development projects initiated during the first five year plan were the earliest moves in this direction.

The industrial bias in Mahalanobis model adopted so far is likely to suffer erosion with the start of the eighth five year plan (1990-95). Agricultural development will receive precedence

over industrial development.

The mixed economy approach will also stay but with a relatively smaller weight for the public sector than was assigned during the Congress regime. The climb-down actually started during Mrs Indira Gandhi's government and was continued later by Mr Rajiv Gandhi through policies of de-control, de-regulation and liberalisation in favour of the private sector.

The new approach will shift the emphasis from heavy and basic industries which are capital intensive to small and cottage industries and labour-intensive industries.

These changes will result in a change in the investment pattern and also in the composition of production. This would mean less of elitist goods and more of mass consumption goods. It needs to be remembered that reduction in the production of the so-called luxury goods may lead to a fall in the economies of scale or increase in the unit cost of production. This may push up the prices of many other goods as well. Its fall-out might have far-reaching effects on the development of the economy, as a whole.

Decentralisation of planning is likely to be a painfully slow process. Prof D.T. Lakdawala deplores the fact that "we have talked of it for the last few years without giving it a general trial even in one State and that we are not prepared to entrust it to the popularly-elected representatives of the districts are a grim indicator of the obstacles ahead".

Micro-planning can only flourish in a culture of de-centralisation and independent cogent thinking. Micro-planning which stands for social justice and macro-planning which emphasises growth are not inconsistent with each other. The former is not only project-specific and selective in the development of target groups but also aims at comprehensive area development. Every local area has characteristics which differentiate it from others in terms of natural endowments, manpower, land tenure systems etc. Hence the necessity for area planning which aims at development of the local resources.

What should be the *modus operandi* for this? In the efforts to apply this strategy to rural development, two schools of thought have

emerged in India: (1) D.R. Gadgil-L.K. Sen school of thought; and (2) V.K.R.V. Rao school of thought. While the former advocates growth centre approach, the latter suggests village cluster approach. Both of them think it necessary to integrate spatial units but they differ in the manner of integration. The vertical-integration recommended by the Gadgil-Sen school aims at forging urban-rural link-up; while the horizontal integration suggested by Rao is sought to be achieved among the villages themselves. The growth impulses are transmitted from a bigger market to a smaller settlement (village) in the first case while they are promoted by a rural unit to the neighbouring one in the second case.

Whatever the approach for area planning, it should be human-oriented. It is only then that planning can be meaningful.

In the past, five different approaches have been adopted to bring about rural development. They are: (1) self-help measures for promoting welfare; (2) employment generation; (3) sectoral integration; (4) institutional reforms; and (5) target-group approach.

The programmes reflecting these approaches such as Integrated Area Development Programme, High-yielding Varieties Programme, Small Farmers Development Agency, National Rural Employment Programme, Rural Labour Employment Guarantee Programme and Integrated Rural Development Programme have had marginal and short-lived impact because they have not brought about any structural change in the system that sustains rural poverty. The poverty alleviation programmes have not been successful in making poverty alleviation real and stable. These programmes must be integrated with rural development and not implemented in isolation. Also, the various programmes should be integrated into a comprehensive beneficiary-oriented schemes with village as the basic unit instead of a district or a block. A step in this direction was taken by the previous government by merging NREP and RLEGP into, what has been named as, Jawahar Rozgar Yojana.

It may be pointed out that beneficiaries of these programmes are not necessarily pulled up above the poverty-line on an enduring basis. Only they are given some relief.

India's Defence Expenditure

A notable feature of the 1990-91 budget is the increase in the country's defence expenditure by Rs 1250 crore over the revised 1989-90 outlay of Rs 14,500 crore. Is this enhancement fully warranted? The proposition for discussion is: "The spurt in India's defence expenditure is not justified in the context of our limited resources".

Mr A Sir, our country is traditionally peaceful and has no aggressive intentions against any of our neighbours or any other State beyond our shores. Our leaders boast of the policy of peaceful co-existence and settlement of all differences through negotiations. At international forums our spokesmen have been pleading for continual disarmament, sharp reductions in the weapon arsenals of various Powers and an end to the arms race. We are expected to practise what we preach and to set an example in the arena of arms purchases and manufacture. In tune with this commendable policy, the Government of India announced in the 1989-90 budget a token reduction of Rs 200 crore in the defence expenditure. We must take full note of the fact that our defence outlay has been mounting from year to year. In 1985-86 the defence outlay was Rs 7,987 crore; in 1986-87 it rose to Rs 11,968 crore and in 1989-90 the revised estimates increased to Rs 13,200 crore. We certainly have to face tricky situations on our borders, but let us not forget the realities. However, intense the provocations at the Pakistan border, most military experts agree that our western neighbour cannot afford to go to war against us. For one thing, it must have learnt a bitter lesson from the two previous defeats in 1965 and 1971. For another, its own internal resources do not permit the launching of any ill-conceived military adventure, in spite of the sabre-rattling and repeated challenges on the border. If this is so, there is really no justification for enhancing our poor

country's military expenditure by Rs 1250 crore over the revised estimates of Rs 14,500 crore for the year ended 1989-90. The equation of defence, closely examined, is our defence forces plus our industrial and technological background, plus the economy of the country and the spirit of the people. Do we have all these qualities in ample measure?

Mr B It seems that my predecessor, Mr A, has shut his eyes to the harsh realities. On March 16, three days before the Union Finance Minister presented his 1990-91 budget, the Prime Minister indicated in Parliament that the country's defence budget was in for a substantial hike "in view of the challenges from across the border". The outlay of Rs 13,000 crore for defence in the 1989-90 budget was admittedly inadequate. When Mr V.P. Singh assumed office there was no money even to pay salaries of the defence and other forces. He made it clear that there could not be any compromise on the security of the country. It is universally admitted that defence of the country is one of the fundamental functions of the Government. Any administration that fails to perform this basic duty has no right to remain in office. In past years India had to wage wars on several fronts—the North-East (NEFA) against Chinese intrusions, and the West against repeated Pakistani aggressions. In spite of our consistent peace drives and our efforts to build bridges of friendship, Pakistan has not abandoned its nefarious designs. There is danger in every vulnerable part of the Indo-Pakistan border. Apart from the threatening postures of the Pakistanis and the depredations of the militants on the Kashmir front, there are the soaring prices of modern military equipment. Let me give the example of army tanks. In 1971 the Army had 27 tank regiments. Suppose all were required to be equipped with "Vijayantas" at the 1989 price of

Rs 75 lakh each, then, assuming 60 tanks per regiment (including reserves), the force would need Rs 1,200 crore. In the mid-1990s the Army needs 80 tank regiments. If these are to be equipped with the "Arjun" at the 1989 price, the force will cost Rs 14,400 crore. In 1971 the country's GNP was about Rs 36,000 crore. In 1989 the GNP was about Rs 3,30,000 crore (the year ended March 31). Thus, to meet the tank needs of the mid-1990s, the Army requires 6.4 times the percentage of GNP as it did in 1971. This is also true of military aircraft which cost fantastic amounts these days. Is it any wonder that the defence budget keeps on mounting? Moreover, the reality regarding the actual military expenditure is generally hidden from the public gaze. The Government has been claiming that it spends 4 per cent of GNP on defence. That figure, however, is obtained by leaving out all sorts of items like pensions and the border para-military forces. Actually, we spend at least 5 per cent of GNP. In 1989-90 the Defence Ministry wanted Rs 17,000 crore to meet its minimum needs. The actual requirements would have taken the total to about 6.3 per cent of GNP, one of the highest in the world. Either we are seriously under-funding defence, or we need more non-military solutions to our security problems. Either way, additional funds are required.

Mr C Sir, it may be true that defence expenditure has been treated as a holy cow. Seldom is it subjected to close scrutiny. Had the expenditure in various shapes—defence contracts for purchase of foreign-made guns, submarines and aircraft—been subjected to careful scrutiny, considerable waste and unnecessary expenditure would have been avoided. Some recent examples of corruption and scandalous transactions are the Swedish Bofors guns and the West German

submarines. People and even M.P.s are not aware of what has been transpiring behind the scenes. The commissions and the kick-backs on these deals have reached scandalous proportions. Moreover, the heavy expenditure on the IPKF in Sri Lanka (estimated at Rs 400 crore annually) is now an old story. With the complete withdrawal of the Indian army from the island republic, there would be a saving of a large sum of money which was being earmarked for the Sri Lanka operations. There would be less wear and tear of military equipment. Then there is the relative peace on the Indo-China border. There is hardly any possibility of more Chinese incursions into Indian territory. Even though the Sino-Indian border issue is still not settled, negotiations are in progress in a cordial atmosphere. The Chinese Foreign Minister visited India in the third week of March, 1990, and the friendly dialogue is to continue. As for the Pakistan border, it is only a case of sabre-rattling and a war of words. Of course we have to prepare for all eventualities, but I submit that if the on-going waste and misuse of funds are avoided and corruption is eliminated, the total military expenditure can be brought down and the taxpayer saved from needless burdens. If the veils of secrecy are lifted and adequate checks exercised, there would be no need to increase the country's military expenditure.

Mr D We must keep in mind the notes of caution sounded by the Prime Minister, the Finance Minister and the Defence Minister. There is urgent need for modernisation of our military equipment. The process of modernisation had virtually come to a stop in 1987 when the Sri Lanka operations started. With the military outlay now enhanced to Rs 15,750 crore, this process would be resumed. But the increase of Rs 1250 crore over the revised estimates of Rs 14,500 crore for the outgoing year (revenue expenditure Rs 10,272 crore plus capital expenditure Rs 4,228 crore), appears inadequate to make up for the loss of two years. The Finance Minister, who cited the increase as "not of our choice" but "the direct result of the situa-

tion on our borders", may have to seek additional grants as the months pass. The operations in Siachen Glacier seem all set to continue in the foreseeable future and, along with the need to keep a greater vigil on the border, would cost an estimated Rs 300 to Rs 400 crore per annum. With low intensity conflicts likely to be the trend for the 1990s, the defence planners would have to give up the ideas about applying a cut on the military manpower. On the contrary, there would almost certainly be an increase, and this would have to be planned at the earliest, entailing higher expenditure on the man behind the gun. Manpower planning would have to be done along with the acquisition of weaponry, decisions on which had been deferred in the last two years thanks to the controversies surrounding the purchase of Bofors guns and IHDW submarines. Besides, the bulk of the increase for the three wings of the defence services will have to be utilised for salaries and allowances. There is no substantial change in terms of revenue expenditure between former Finance Minister S.B. Chavan's budget of 1989-90 and Prof Madhu Dandavate's proposals. As for the pensions, a sum of Rs 1,500 crore has been provided, but Prof Dandavate announced that the Government would take "further action" after the committee considering the issue of "one rank, one pension" submits its report. Defence outlay has accounted for about 17 to 18 per cent of the total and the revised estimates of the outgoing year worked out to about four per cent of the Gross National Product (GNP). The proposals for 1990-91 however amount to 14 per cent of the total. The net increase works out at a mere 8.62 per cent, which is just about the current rate of inflation. Roughly, 40 per cent of the defence budget accounts for salaries, allowances and pensions, while 20 to 25 per cent accounts for Stores, R and D and other such heads. The army has been provided Rs 2869.15 crore under Stores head, the Navy Rs 380 crore and the Air Force Rs 1255.68 crore.

Mr E Whatever the relative figures of expenditure, it is vital to ensure effectiveness of our defence

forces in all circumstances. We can't trust either Pakistan or China. We must learn a lesson from history. The late Gen Zia was going all out to equip his army. More and more F-16s were ordered. Even the new democratic Pakistani regime under M/s Benazir Bhutto has not halted or modified her country's military expansion programme. Far from being a dove, she is now very much a hawk. In fact, Pakistan is sparing no effort to become nuclear in order to acquire a distinct, and possibly decisive, advantage over Indian military forces. Pakistan has already sharpened its striking power and is frantically going ahead. We should not allow ourselves to be caught unawares. Of course the country's forces should be streamlined and waste avoided, but that does not warrant a low defence outlay. That might in certain contingencies amount to betrayal of the country's vital interests. India's Prime Minister sounded a timely warning to Pakistan in this connection. In February this year he announced that India would have to review its peaceful nuclear policy if Pakistan employed its nuclear power for military purposes. No one will question the experts' assessment that Pakistan's going nuclear would bring about a radical change in the security environment in the region. If this were to happen, the Government of India will have to take stock of the situation and act accordingly. Even a committed advocate of non-violence in the Gandhian tradition, such as Mr Morarji Desai, felt compelled by the change in the security environment to declare that India might have to review its peaceful nuclear policy. He was our Prime Minister at the time. Of course it would be a gross betrayal of India's interests if the Government stuck to a particular policy even when there was a glaring threat of a nuclear attack by Pakistan or China. A realistic policy is needed. So every country—and India too—keeps in constant touch with what its neighbour is doing in the matter of armaments and enrolment of military personnel. Pakistan's actions in this regard are disconcerting. It is necessary, therefore, to adjust our defence outlays in accordance with the threats on the border.

HISTORY

IMPORTANT DATES

B.C.

✓ 3000-1500—Indus Valley Civilization.

✓ 753—Rome founded.

✓ 623 or 567 or 563—Birth of Gautama Buddha.

599—Birth of Mahavira.

✓ 327 or 326—Alexander crossed the Indus and invaded India.

✓ 322-185—Maurya Dynasty.

✓ 274 or 273-232—Accession of Ashoka the Great.

✓ 261—Conquest of Kalinga.

✓ 58—Beginning of Vikrami Era (Calendar).

✓ 4—Birth of Jesus.

A.D.

30—Crucifixion of Jesus Christ.

78—Beginning of Saka Era.

320—Gupta Era.

570—Birth of Prophet Mohammad.

600—End of Roman Empire.

606-647—Harshavardhana—last great Hindu King of Northern India.

622—Beginning of Hijri Era (Calendar).

712—Arab Invasion of Sindh (by Mohd-bin-Qasim).

900—Rise of Chola dynasty.

1000-1026—Sultan Mahmud Ghazni's attack on India.

1190-1290—Establishment of Muslim Rule in Northern India.

1191—First Battle of Traori.

1192—Second Battle of Traori; Fall of Prithvi Raj Chohan.

1215—Signing of Magna Carta (June 15).

1221—First Mongol invasion of India by Changez Khan.

1336—Vijayanagar Empire founded in South India.

1347—Bahmani Kingdom founded in South India.

1398—Invasion of India by Timur Lang.

1469—Birth of Guru Nanak.

1486-1533—Bhakti movement.

1492—Columbus discovered America.

1498—Vasco-de-Gama discovered sea route to India.

1510—Goa conquered by Albuquerque—Portuguese Viceroy in India.

1526—Babar's invasion; First Battle of Panipat.

1540-1545—Reign of Sher Shah Suri.

1556—Second Battle of Panipat; Accession of Akbar to the throne.

1564-65—Battle of Talikota; Abolition of Jazia tax.

1576—Battle of Haldighat pass.

1600—East India Company established.

1605-1627—Reign of Jehangir.

1612—First English Factory at Surat.

1627—Birth of Shivaji.

1627-1657—Reign of Shah Jehan.

1649—King Charles I of England beheaded—Beginning of Commonwealth.

1658—Coronation of Aurangzeb.

1689—Establishment of British Constitutional Monarchy.

1707—Fall of Mughal empire.

✓ 1739—Nadir Shah invaded India.

✓ 1757—Battle of Plassey; Lord Clive established British Rule in India.

✓ 1760—Battle of Wandiwash; End of French power in India.

✓ 1761—Third Battle of Panipat.

1770—Famine in Bengal.

1776 (4th July)—Declaration of American Independence.

1774-85—Warren Hastings—First Governor-General of India.

1789—French Revolution.

1799—Fourth Mysore War—Death of Tipu Sultan.

1805—Battle of Trafalgar.

1815—Battle of Waterloo; Exile of Napoleon Bonaparte.

1829—Prohibition of Sati.

1853—First Indian Railway line opened from Bombay to Thana.

1857 (10th May)—First war of Indian Independence (so-called Indian Mutiny of 1857).

1858—End of East India Company's Rule; Queen Victoria's Proclamation.

1869—Suez Canal opened for traffic.

1885—Indian National Congress founded by A.O. Hume. The first session was held at Bombay.

1905—First Partition of Bengal.

1909—Discovery of North Pole by Commander Peary.

1912—Establishment of Chinese Republic.

1914 (28th July)—World War I declared.

1917—Revolution in Russia.

1918—End of World War I.

1919 (April 13)—Tragedy of Jallianwala Bagh, Amritsar.

1920 (Jan 13)—League of Nations comes formally into existence.

✓ 1922—Chauri-Chauri outrage.

1929—Congress Resolution for complete independence in Lahore session under Presidentship of Jawaharlal Nehru.

✓ 1930—Historical Dandi March; First Round-Table Conference.

✓ 1931—Gandhi-Irwin Pact; Second Round-Table Conference.

✓ 1935—Government of India Act passed.

1939—World War II declared (1st September).

1942—Quit India Resolution by Indian National Congress.

1945—End of World War II; First Atom Bomb dropped on Hiroshima, Japan (6th August); Second atom bomb dropped at Nagasaki, Japan (9th August); United Nations comes into existence; The UN Charter comes into force (Oct 24).

1947 (Aug 15)—Partition of India; India achieves independence; creation

of Pakistan.

1948—Burma achieves independence; Sri Lanka achieves independence; Jewish State of Israel formed in Palestine (May 14).

—Assassination of Mahatma Gandhi; Kashmir acceded to India.

1949—Enactment of the Indian Constitution.

1950—India becomes sovereign democratic republic on Jan 26.

1951—First five-year plan launched.

1952—First General Elections in India.

1953—Mount Everest is conquered.

1957 (4th Oct)—Russia launches the first artificial satellite.

1961 (April 12)—Man's first entry into space.

—Russia successfully launches VOSTOK-1 spaceship carrying Major Yuri Gagarin.

1962—China attacks India (Oct 20); declares ceasefire (Nov 21).

1963—Nuclear Test-Ban Treaty (Aug 5); President John F. Kennedy of USA shot dead (Nov 22).

1965—Indo-Pak war.

1966—Tashkent Declaration between India and Pakistan signed (Jan 10). Luna-9, a Russian spacecraft, soft-lands on the moon (Feb 24).

1968—Five Warsaw Pact countries (East Germany, Poland, USSR, Bulgaria and Hungary) invade Czechoslovakia (Aug 21).

1969—Armstrong and Aldrin, the US cosmonauts, become first humans to land on moon.

1971—India and Soviet Union sign 20-year pact.

—Indo-Pak war (Dec 3-17); defeat of Pakistan; Bangladesh freed.

1972—Simla agreement between India and Pakistan.

—Pioneer-10 launched towards Jupiter.

1973—Fourth Arab-Israel war breaks out (Oct 6).

1974—India becomes 6th Nuclear Power in the world (May 18).

1975—India enters space age by launching *Aryabhata*.

—State of Emergency is declared by Prime Minister Mrs Indira Gandhi.

—Egypt and Israel sign Sinai pact.

1977—Emergency in India relaxed. First non-Congress government assumes power in India.

—Gen Mohammed Zia-ul-Haq topples Bhutto in a bloodless coup (July 5).

—USA and Panama reach an agreement over Panama Canal.

1978—Israel and Egypt reach accord at Camp David, USA (Sept 18).

1979—Shah of Iran quits; Ayatollah Khomeini proclaimed President of Iran.

—China invades Vietnam.

—Russian troops enter Afghanistan.

1980—India successfully launches SLV-3 rocket into space.

—Undeclared war starts between Iran and Iraq.

1981—India's first geo-stationary satellite, APPLE, is launched.

—USA Launches space shuttle Colombia.

1982—Lt Gen H.M. Ershad seizes power in Bangladesh.

—Falkland war between Britain and Argentina.

1983—INSAT-1B, India's communication satellite is launched (Aug 30).

—USA invades Grenada.

1984—Sqn Ldr Rakesh Sharma becomes first Indian spaceman (April 3). Bachendri Pal becomes first Indian woman to conquer Mt Everest (May 23). Army launches operation 'Bluestar' to flush out terrorists from Golden Temple, Amritsar (June 3). Mrs Indira Gandhi Assassinated (Oct 31).

—China and Britain sign an agreement to return Hong Kong to Chinese control in 1997 (Sept 26).

1985—Punjab accord is signed (July 24). Assam accord is signed (August 20).

1986—Mizoram accord is signed (June 30). Mr Ferdinand E. Marcos, President of Philippines flees to USA after people's uprising.

1987—India and Sri Lanka sign historic peace accord to end Tamil problem in Sri Lanka.

1988—India joins Nuclear Maritime club (Feb 3). IRS-IA, India's first remote-sensing satellite is launched (March 17).

1989—Soviet pull-out from Afghanistan is completed (Feb 15).

First multi-candidate polls are held in USSR (March 26). First China-USSR summit in three decades is held in Beijing, China (May 15). Poland holds first democratic elections in Eastern Europe in more than 40 years (June 4). 14-year-old civil war in Angola ends (June 24).

Vietnam's occupation of Cambodia ends (Sept 26).

—First intermediate range missile of India, *Agni*, is successfully launched (May 22).

BATTLES AND WARS IN INDIA

Battle of Hydaspes: 326 BC—Alexander the Great had to turn back at the Hydaspes (Beas) as his homesick troops refused to fight against the Nanda empire.

Battle of Kalinga: 261 BC—Ashoka defeated king of Kalinga. This battle killed the soldier in Ashoka and he embraced Buddhism.

1st Battle of Tarain: 1191 AD—Prithvi Raj Chohan defeated Mohammed Ghori.

2nd Battle of Tarain: 1192 AD—Mohammed Ghori defeated Prithvi Raj Chohan.

1st Battle of Panipat: 1526—Babar defeated Ibrahim Lodhi.

2nd Battle of Panipat: 1556—Bairam Khan (Akbar's General) defeated Hemu.

Battle of Talikota: 1564-65—This battle destroyed the kingdom of Vijayanagar.

Battle of Haldighat: 1576—Akbar's forces defeated Rana Pratap.

Battle of Plassey: 1757—The English under Lord Clive defeated Siraj-ud-Daulah. This battle laid the foundation of British Rule in India.

3rd Battle of Panipat: 1761—Ahmed Shah Abdali defeated Marhattas.

Fourth Mysore War: 1799—British forces defeated Tipu Sultan.

Fourth Marhatta War: 1817-18—British defeated Marhattas and thus extinguished the Marhatta empire.

ANCIENT CULTURE AND CIVILIZATIONS

Indus Valley Civilization: Flourished between 2500 to 1700 BC. Two big cities of the period, to be discovered, are Harappa in the Montgomery district of West Punjab (Pakistan) and Mohenjodaro in the Larkana district of Sind (Pakistan). In

India important sites connected are Ropar in Punjab and Kalibangan in Rajasthan. Later discoveries have traced it as far as Alamgirpur in Uttar Pradesh.

People cultivated barley, wheat, peas, melons, sesame etc. People knew how to spin both cotton and woollen threads. Women put on skirts, and the men wore a band of cloth round their loins. They also sported beards and whiskers. Both men and women wore ornaments. People domesticated bull, buffalo, pig, elephant, horses and dogs.

The cities were well planned with broad streets. The people used burnt bricks with gypsum and mud-plaster. The cities had well laid out drainage system.

Vedic or Aryan Civilization: The original home of Aryans still remains a controversial point. They are supposed to have migrated from Central Asia. The group that came to India first settled in the present Frontier Province and Punjab—then called *Sapta Sindhu*.

The Aryans were skilful farmers. They knew the art of domesticating animals. They were engaged in trade and knew maritime navigation. The religious books were Vedas—four in number: (i) the *Rig Veda*, the oldest, (ii) the *Yajur Veda*, (iii) the *Sama Veda*, and (iv) the *Atharva Veda*; the *Upanishads*—Philosophical treatises; the *Epics*—the *Ramayana* and the *Mahabharata*; the *Puranas*—18 in number; the *Shastras* or the *Darshanas*—six in number and *Manu Smriti*.

It was in medieval age that the Aryans came to be called Hindus. They were divided in four castes: (i) *Brahmanas*, (ii) *Kshatriyas*, (iii) *Vaishyas* and (iv) *Sudras*.

BUDDHISM AND JAINISM

Buddhism was founded by Siddhartha who was born in 567 B.C. at Lumbini village. He was son of Sudhodana, king of Kapilvastu. The founder of Jainism is unknown. Mahavira, a contemporary of Buddha, was the preceptor of Jainism. He was the last of the Jain teachers called *Tirthankaras*.

The two faiths shared the belief in the transmigration of soul, but rejected the authority of Vedas and condemned animal sacrifice.

While Jainism carried the doctrine of non-violence to the extreme and prescribed rigid asceticism for salva-

tion, Buddhism advised the middle path and abhorred the mortification of the flesh as much as indulgence in sensual pleasures.

Buddha laid stress on the Four Noble Truths, the observance of the ten commandments and the pursuit of Noble Eight-fold Path.

Foreign countries to be influenced by Indian Culture in the ancient period: (The ancient Indian names of these countries are given in brackets) Vietnam (*Champa*), Java (*Yavadvipa*), Sumatra (*Suvarnadwipa*), Borneo (*Varunadvipa*), Cambodia (*Kamboja*) Sri Lanka (*Tamraparni*), Burma (*Indradwipa*) Malaya (*Malaya Desha*).

KINGDOMS AND DYNASTIES

Maurya Dynasty (322-185 B.C.): Chandra Gupta Maurya was the founder (322-289 B.C.). This was first historical Empire of India. With the help of his wise and able tutor (later Minister)—Kautilya or Chanakya—he drove the Greeks out of Punjab and conquered Magadha. Ashoka the Great (273-233 B.C.) was the most famous king and one of the greatest in Indian history.

Kushan Dynasty (120 A.D. to 162 A.D.): War-like tribe driven out of China, they came to India in the 1st century A.D. Kanishka was the third and the greatest king. He became a patron of Buddhism and was the only Indian ruler to have his territory beyond Pamirs in Central Asia.

Gupta Dynasty (320-550 A.D.): Chandra Gupta I (320-330 A.D.) started the Gupta Era. The period is termed as golden period of the Hindus. The Guptas freed the country from foreign domination. Chandra Gupta I was followed by Samudra Gupta and Chandra Gupta II (Vikramaditya).

During Vikramaditya's reign Fahein, the Chinese pilgrim visited; art and literature flourished; great personages who lived during his period include Kalidas—poet and dramatist; Aryabhatt and Varahamihira—greatest mathematicians and astronomers; Shankaracharya—great preacher of Hinduism and Dhanwantri—great physician.

Vardhana Dynasty (606-647 A.D.): Harsha Vardhana was the greatest king. He nearly conquered whole of Northern India. He was last Hindu king of Northern India. Hsien Tsang (630-645) a Chinese pilgrim visited India during his reign.

Chalukya Dynasty (450-1189 A.D.): Founded by Chulik. The greatest king was Pulakesin II, a contemporary of Harsha. He foiled all attempts by Harsha to invade Deccan.

Chola Dynasty: Ancient Tamil kingdom. Reached zenith of their power under Rajaraja I the Great (985-1014 A.D.). The great Siva temple at Tanjore, the masterpiece of Chola architecture, was built by him.

The Rajputs (650-1200 A.D.): After death of Harsha, Rajputs established their rule in the whole of Northern India and formed several petty independent kingdoms which lasted for 500 years and then succumbed to the Muslim invaders. Well known rulers were: Prithvi Raj Chohan, the king of Delhi and Ajmer and Jai Chand Rathor who was the last and most famous king. He was defeated and killed by Mohammed Ghori in 1194. Bihar was ruled by Palta dynasty, Bengal by Sena dynasty, Bundelkhand by Chandel Rajputs and Mewar by Sisodia dynasty. Mewar rose to great power under Rana Kumbha. The Rana defeated Muslims and erected the Tower of Victory at Chittor. Rana Sangram Singh (Sanga) and Rana Pratap belonged to this dynasty. Mirabai, the celebrated devotee of Lord Krishna was daughter-in-law of Rana Kumbha.

Bahmani Kingdom (1346-1526): Muslim kingdom established in Deccan, it was founded by Zafar Khan. The most important person was Mahmud Gawan. The kingdom ultimately split into five independent States: (1) Bidar (2) Berar (3) Ahmednagar (4) Bijapur (5) Golkonda. In 1565 the States, except Berar, combined and destroyed the Vijayanagar kingdom at the Battle of Talikota.

Vijayanagar Kingdom (1336-1565): Founded by Hari Har and Bukka Raya, two brothers in order to check the tide of Muslim conquests. Most famous king was Raja Krishna Dev, the last great Hindu ruler of Southern India (1509-1529). The last king was Ram Raja.

ADVENT OF MUSLIMS

The Arabs were the first Muslims to come to India. They conquered Sind and Multan in 712 A.D. but could not set up their kingdom. Three hundred years later (997-1030 AD) Sultan Mahmud of Ghazni led a series of raids. In 1025 A.D. he plundered Som Nath Temple in Kathiawar. In

1186 Mohd Ghori conquered Lahore. In 1191 he was defeated by Prithvi Raj Chohan at the *Battle of Tarain* but next year he returned and completely defeated the Hindus. Thus commenced the Muslim rule in India.

The dynasties which ruled till the coming of Mughals in the 16th century were the Slaves, the Khiljis, the Tughlaqs, the Sayyids and the Lodis. This phase is known as the Sultanate period.

In 1526 the foundation of Mughal rule was laid by Babar. He was descendant of Chingez Khan and Timur. Akbar, the greatest of the Mughals extended his sway over an area stretching from Kandhar in the west to Dhaka in the east and from Srinagar in the north to Ahmednagar in the south.

The Mughal Empire reached the zenith of expansion under Aurangzeb. He thought and acted in terms of an Islamic State and considered it his duty to wage *Jihads* against the unbelievers. He imposed *jazia* and pilgrim tax on Hindus and encouraged large scale conversions. He contributed, in more than one way, in the downfall of Mughal Empire.

THE MARATHAS

The Marathas rose to power during the second half of the seventeenth century. Under Shivaji (1627-80) they became a great power. Under Peshwas they made a bold bid to build up a Hindu *Padshahi*. Baji Rao was the ablest of the Peshwas. In 1761 Ahmed Shah Abdali inflicted crushing defeat to the Peshwa's forces at Panipat.

THE SIKHS

The community was founded as a religious sect by Guru Nanak during the religious revival of 15th and 16th centuries. Guru Gobind Singh (1666-1707), the tenth Guru, transformed it into a military brotherhood. Maharaja Ranjit Singh (1780-1839) was the greatest Indian ruler of his time and was founder of the Sikh rule in the Punjab. The Sikh power was broken by British after the death of Ranjit Singh.

THE COMING OF EUROPEANS

Vasco de Gama discovered the sea route to India and reached Calicut in 1498. His discovery made the Portuguese to be the first among the European nations to trade with India. Following them were the Dutch, the

English, the Danes and the French.

The (English) East India Company was incorporated in 1600 by a Charter given by Queen Elizabeth I. In 1615 first factory was built at Surat. Battle of Plassey in 1757 laid the foundation of the Company's power in Bengal. Bengal was the first province to be conquered by the English.

In 1774 Regulating Act gave a legalised working constitution to the East India Company's dominion in India. The Pitt's India Act, 1784 put the East India Company under the control of the British Parliament.

Lord Wellesley (1789-1805) made the East India Company the paramount power in India.

Lord Cornwallis (1786-93) introduced the *Permanent Settlement of Bengal* which placed the Indian revenue system on scientific basis.

Lord Dalhousie (1848-56) introduced the *Doctrine of Lapse* which laid down as a principle that on the death of a ruling prince without direct descendants, the British Government should refuse to sanction the adoption of an heir and declare the dominions of the deceased as "lapsed to the sovereign power by total failure of heirs natural".

The 1857 Revolution: On March 29, 1857 Mangal Pandey, a sepoy in the 34th Regiment on parade in Barrackpore, broke the ranks calling upon his fellow Indians to rise in revolt against the British. He shot dead two British officers. The news of his arrest and being hanged spread to all cantonments and a countrywide revolt broke out. The heroine of the first war of independence was Rani Lakshmi Bai of Jhansi. Other notable figures were: Nana Saheb, the adopted son of last Peshwa and Tantya Tope, the brave commander of Nana Saheb's forces.

Queen's Proclamation of 1858: This was most important sequel to the great revolt of 1857. The proclamation ended the rule of East India Company in India. The Government of India was taken over directly by the Crown. The Governor-General who was henceforth to be a representative of the Crown was redesignated as the Viceroy. The first Viceroy of India was Lord Canning. The proclamation was described as Magna Carta of India.

The Indian Councils Act, 1861 enabled the Viceroy to associate Indians with legislative business.

Minto-Morley Reforms or the Indian Councils Act of 1909 enlarged the size of the Legislative Councils. The official majority was replaced by a majority of nominated members. The worst feature was institution of separate electorate for the Muslims.

Montagu-Chelmsford reforms or Government of India Act, 1919: It replaced the Imperial Legislative Council with a bicameral legislature, that was set-up in New Delhi. A system of direct elections, with limited franchise, was introduced. It introduced dyarchy in the provinces.

THE NATIONAL FREEDOM MOVEMENT

The first sign of political organisation in India was the formation of the *Indian Association* by Surendranath Banerjee in 1876. In 1885 the Indian National Congress was formed. The organisation owed its origin to the inspiration provided by Surendranath Banerjee and A.O. Hume. The first session was held in Bombay in 1885 under the Presidentship of Mr Womesh Chandra Bonnerjee.

The 1907 Surat Session saw the first split in Congress. The extremists led by Bal Gangadhar Tilak, Lala Lajpat Rai and Bipin Chander Pal believed that independence could not be achieved by following constitutional methods alone. The moderates decided to have no truck with extremists. In 1916, at the Lucknow Session, the extremists were admitted back into Congress.

This was followed by the *Home Rule Movement* spearheaded by Tilak and Mrs Annie Besant. The finest period of the Indian National Congress was from 1918 to 1947 when Mahatma Gandhi dominated the Indian political scene.

Rowlatt Act: Passed in 1918, it gave the government unbridled power to arrest and imprison suspects without trial and crush civil liberties.

Jallianwala Bagh Massacre (April 13, 1919): A public meeting was announced on April 13, 1919 to protest against the Rowlatt Act. Before the meeting could start General Dwyer ordered heavy firing on the crowd. Hundreds of innocents were killed. (On March 13, 1940, Sardar Udham Singh shot dead Sir Michael O'Dwyer, the Lt Governor of Punjab at the time of Jallianwala Bagh tragedy, in London).

Non-cooperation Movement: The

Calcutta session of Congress in September 1920 passed a resolution moved by Gandhiji to launch non-cooperation movement against the British for attainment of Swaraj. The movement envisaged among other things (i) surrender of titles and honorary offices; (ii) withdrawal of children from government schools; (iii) boycott of British courts (iv) boycott of foreign goods; and (v) adoption of Swadeshi in piece-goods on a vast scale.

Chauri Chaura Incident: As Mahatma Gandhi was preparing for his civil disobedience movement in Bardoli, a mob in Gorakhpur clashed with the police and killed 22 policemen. Since Gandhiji was against violence he abruptly called off the agitation.

Swaraj Party: Gandhiji's decision to suspend non-cooperation movement came in for severe criticism by Moti Lal Nehru, C.R. Das and N.C. Kelkar. They formed a new Party—Swaraj Party. They emphasised the need for entering the legislative councils by contesting elections in order to wreck them from within. After the death of C.R. Das in 1925 the party disintegrated.

Simon Commission: The Commission was appointed in 1927 to inquire into the working of the system of government, the growth of education, etc. All political leaders decided to boycott the Commission because it had no Indian member. It was while leading a demonstration against the Commission in Lahore that Lala Lajpat Rai died after a fatal lathi-blow.

Lahore Congress Session 1929: Under the Presidentship of Pt Jawaharlal Nehru the resolution, declaring complete independence to be the goal of the national movement, was passed.

Dandi March: On March 12, 1930 Gandhiji started the March, from Sabarmati Ashram for the small village Dandi, to break the Salt Law. On reaching the seashore he broke the Salt Law by picking up salt from the seashore. This was the start of another round of civil disobedience.

First Round Table Conference (1930): Held in London on November 12, 1930, it was boycotted by Indian National Congress. The aim was to abridge gulf between the Government and the Congress so that the non-cooperation movement might come to an end.

Gandhi-Irwin Pact and Second

Round Table Conference (1931): The pact was signed on March 5, 1931 between Gandhiji and Lord Irwin, the then Viceroy. In terms of the pact the civil disobedience movement was withdrawn and Gandhiji agreed to attend the Second Round Table Conference. The Conference started in September 1931 and closed on December 11, 1931 without achieving anything.

Poona Pact, 1932: The British Prime Minister Ramsay MacDonald gave the Communal Award which conceded separate electorates on communal basis. Gandhiji went on a fast unto death to have the award annulled. The fast ended in the Poona Pact which repudiated the Award.

Government of India Act, 1935: The Simon Commission report formed the basis of this act. It introduced provincial autonomy and abolished dyarchy in the provinces.

August Offer: On August 8, 1940, the Viceroy declared that the goal of British Government was to establish Dominion Status in India. It accepted that framing of a new Constitution would be the responsibility of Indians. It also laid down that full weight would be given to minorities views. The Congress President, Maulana Azad, rejected this offer. The Muslim League, however, welcomed it. It declared that the problem of India's future Constitution could be solved only by partition of India.

Cripps Mission, 1942: With the Japanese advance to India's border, during World War II, the Britishers realised that they could not ignore Indians anymore. Sir Stafford Cripps arrived in India on March 22, 1942 to resolve the deadlock and to unite Indians against the Japanese menace. He proposed that (i) India should be given the status of Dominion after the war; (ii) during the war except for Defence all other subjects would be transferred to Indians; and (iii) after the war a constituent Assembly would be set up to decide the future of India. It was a package deal which was to be accepted as a whole. The Cripps Mission, however, ended in failure as no party agreed to the proposals.

Quit India Movement: On July 14, 1942 the working Committee of the Congress passed the Quit India resolution which asked the British to transfer the power to Indians or face a non-violent movement under the

leadership of Gandhiji. The British government acted swiftly. All leaders were jailed. This resulted in a revolutionary upsurge which was suppressed ruthlessly.

Wavell Plan: It concerned Viceroy's Executive Council. One of the main proposals was that the Executive Council would be constituted giving a balanced representation to the main communities in it, including equal representation to Muslims and Hindus. 22 prominent leaders called at Shimla to consider the plan. They could reach no decision because Mr Jinnah's stand that only those Muslims approved by the Muslim League should be included in the Executive Council.

Cabinet Mission: In 1945-46 two important events—the INA trials and Naval Mutiny—turned the scale against the British. The coming of Labour Party in Power in England finally set the pace for the Freedom for Indians.

The new Prime Minister Mr Atlee appointed the Cabinet Mission to negotiate handling of power with the Indian leaders. The mission consisted of Lord Patheek Lawrence, Sir Stafford Cripps and Mr A.V. Alexander.

The commission recommended: (i) There should be a Union of India comprising British India and the Indian States; (ii) The federal centre should have control over defence, foreign affairs and communications; (iii) The Provinces should form three groups—(a) Group of the Hindu majority provinces, (b) Group of the Muslim majority provinces, (c) Group of Bengal and Assam; (iv) A Constituent Assembly should be set up to draft the Constitution; (v) Any Province could withdraw from any Group after the first general elections. The Commission rejected the demand for creation of Pakistan.

Constituent Assembly: Elections to the assembly were held in July 1946. In the Muslim electorate, the Muslim League secured 73 out of 78 seats. The Congress won 199 out of 210 seats. The Muslim League, however, boycotted the Assembly even before its first meeting fixed for December 9, 1946. The Assembly commenced its business with Dr Rajendra Prasad as its Speaker. But non-participation of Muslim League led to failure of Cabinet Mission's plan.

The Mountbatten Plan: The next formula for transfer of sovereignty to

Indians was the Mountbatten plan of June 3, 1947. It laid down detailed principles for the partition of India. Its acceptance by all resulted in the birth of Pakistan.

The Indian Independence Act, 1947: The Act laid down detailed measures for partition of India and speedy transfer of the political power to the newly born governments of India and Pakistan. The main provisions were: (1) The Constitution framed by the Indian Constituent Assembly will not apply to Muslim-majority provinces (2) The question of division of Bengal and Punjab will be decided by their respective Assemblies (3) A Boundary Commission will be appointed to decide final line of demarcation between India and Pakistan (4) Power will be transferred by 15th August, 1947 (5) Princely States would be free to join India or Pakistan or proclaim independence.

Governors-General of India

Louis Mountbatten (Aug 15, 1947 to June 20, 1948)

C. Rajagopalachari (June 21, 1948 to Jan 25, 1950)

Presidents of Indian Republic

Dr Rajendra Prasad (1950-62).

Dr S. Radhakrishnan (The Philosopher-President) (1962-67).

Dr Zakir Hussain (1967-1969).

V.V. Giri (1969-1974).

Fakhruddin Ali Ahmed (1974-1977).

Neelam Sanjiva Reddy (1977-1982).

Zail Singh (1982-1987).

R. Venkataraman (1987-).

REFORMS AND REGIMES (During the British period)

Agrarian Reforms : Lord Curzon
Cabinet Mission : Lord Wavell

First Census : Lord Rippon

Congress Resolution for complete independence : Lord Irwin

Cripps Mission : Lord Linlithgow

Doctrine of Lapse : Lord Dalhousie

Dyarchy : Lord Chelmsford

Government of India Act, 1935 : Lord Wellington

I.N.A. Trial : Lord Wavell

Indian Councils Act : Lord Minto-II

Indian Independence Act : Lord Mountbatten

Jallianwala Bagh Tragedy : Lord Chelmsford

Local Self Government : Lord Rippon

Non-cooperation Movement : Lord Chelmsford

Partition of Bengal : Lord Curzon

Queen Victoria's Proclamation : Lord Canning

Quit India : Lord Linlithgow

Rowlatt Acts : Lord Chelmsford

Sati Prohibition : Lord William Bentinck

Sepoy Mutiny : Lord Canning

Thuggee, suppression of : Lord William Bentinck

Transfer of India's capital from Calcutta to Delhi : Lord Hardinge-II

Miscellany

Jain temples in Mount Abu were built by Solanki Rulers.

Somnath Temple was invaded by Mahmud of Ghazni in 1025 AD.

The dynasty founded by the two brothers Harihara and Bukka of Vijayanagar Empire was called Sangam Dynasty.

Razia Sultan ruled from 1236-1240 AD. She was the first and the only Muslim lady to sit on the throne of Delhi.

Muhammad Tughlaq shifted his capital from Delhi to Devagiri.

Akbar has his kingdom divided into 15 provinces. These provinces were called *Subas*.

Mohenjodaro was discovered by R.D. Banerjee in 1922.

The *Rigveda* consists of 1028 hymns.

Mahabharata was written by Sage Vyasa.

The typical feature of Mathura School of Art was use of red spotted stone.

The three virtues which Mahavira asked his followers to follow are called *Tri Ratna*.

The real name of Chanakya was Vishnu Gupta.

Kushans were also known as Kouei-Chonang.

The famous "*Gayatri Mantra*" is contained in *Rig Veda*.

Christianity was introduced in India by St Thomas.

Kabir was brought up by a Muslim weaver Niru.

Arthshastra was written by Chanakya.

The Political organisation of Rajputs was based on Feudal System.

The Khajuraho temples were built by Chandella rulers.

The Lingaraja temple is situated at Bhubaneswar.

The mighty gateways found in the temples of South India are called Gopurams.

The Buland Darwaza was built to mark Akbar's conquest of Gujarat.

Shivaji used to be assisted by a council of eight ministers called *Ash-tapradhan*.

Hampi was capital of Vijayanagar empire.

The most famous temple in Cambodia which shows signs of Indian influence in that country is Angkor Vat.

Aligarh Muslim University was founded by Sir Syed Ahmed Khan.

The first woman President of the Congress was Sarojini Naidu.

Brahmo Samaj was founded by Raja Ram Mohan Roy.

The Grand Trunk Road was built during the reign of Sher Shah Suri.

The tax collected by the Marathas after a victory was called *Chauth*.

Azad Hind Fauj was formed by Netaji Subhash Chander Bose in 1943.

Integration of Princely States in India took place in 1948.

Founder of Ramakrishna mission was Swami Vivekananda. His original name was Naridranath Datta.

Varahamihira was a distinguished Indian astronomer, mathematician and philosopher. He was one of the nine gems of the court of King Vikramaditya.

Raja Ram Mohan Roy was one of the greatest social reformers that India has produced. He was founder of *Brahmo Samaj* and was instrumental in eradicating social evils like *Sati*, *Purdah* and child marriage.

Acharya Ramanuj, the great Vaishnava teacher of Tamil Nadu; founder of *Bhakti* movement.

Sarvodaya and *Bhoodan* movement was founded by Vinoba Bhave. He was follower of Mahatma Gandhi.

GEOGRAPHY

GEOGRAPHICAL TERMS

Antarctic: The Antarctic Circle is that part of the earth which surrounds the South Pole. It is entirely surrounded by a great stretch of water called Southern Ocean from which three most important oceans stretch northward—the Indian Ocean, the Pacific and the Atlantic Ocean.

Apogee: a heavenly body's point of greatest distance from the earth; the sun's greatest meridional altitude.

Arctic: The Arctic is the northernmost part of earth which surrounds the North Pole. Owing to intense cold, a great part of it remains frozen all the year.

Artesian Well: When a permeable rock lies between two impermeable rocks and is open at both ends, the rain water enters it at the open end and fills the whole of the permeable rock. If a hole be made through the impermeable rock reaching as far as the bottom of the permeable rock, the water will gush out of the hole of itself. Such a boring is called an Artesian Well.

Asteroids: are minor planets. They are small bodies which revolve round the sun between the orbits of Mars and Jupiter.

Atoll: A Coral Reef in the shape of a ring or horse-shoe, enclosing a Lagoon.

Aurora Borealis: is a light phenomenon seen at nights in the northern hemisphere. It consists of beams of many coloured light quivering in the sky. It is seen in the north of Norway and in corresponding latitudes. A similar phenomenon is seen in the southern hemisphere which is called *Aurora Australis*.

Avalanche: These are large accumulations of snow or masses of ice which split off in summer with great noise and go down tearing and smashing at the bottom.

Canyon: is a gorge, relatively narrow but of considerable size, bounded by steep slopes. It is usually formed by a river cutting through the soft rocks of an arid region—the scantness of the rainfall prevents

denudation of the canyon walls and so maintains their steepness. The best known canyon in the world is the Grand Canyon of the Colorado river in the USA.

Climate: is the average condition of weather obtaining in a country or a place for a considerable period.

Comets: are luminous celestial bodies moving round the sun. The bright comet contains a nucleus, an enveloping haze or coma and usually a tail of luminous matter.

Coniferous Forest: a forest of evergreen coniferous or cone-bearing trees carrying needle-shaped leaves. The valuable softwood timber of commerce is obtained from these forests. The important coniferous forests are situated across northern Canada and northern Eurasia.

Coniferous Trees: are trees which typically bear cones and have needle-shaped leaves; pines, fir etc. Such trees are found mostly in northern Canada and Europe.

Constellations: a group of fixed stars arranged naturally such as the Great Bear and the Scorpion.

Continental Climate: is the type of climate occurring in the temperate zone in the northern hemisphere. It is characterised by extremes of temperature, particularly after the summer and winter solstices, low humidity and relatively scanty rainfall.

Continental Shelf: The sea bed, bordering the continents, which is covered by shallow water, generally 100 fathoms or less in depth, takes the form of a shelf or ledge sloping gently downwards from the coast. It varies considerably in width, reaching in some places 160 km or more. The shelf may be formed by a rise in level of the sea or a fall in level of the land, or by the denudation of the fringe of the land by the sea, or by the deposition of solid materials beneath the water by rivers.

Contours: are lines drawn through places of equal heights above sea level.

Coral: a small marine invertebrate animal. They generally occur united

together in immense colonies which form coral reefs, the white and pink limy skeletal structures of which constitute the coral of commerce.

Coral Reef: a chain of rocks lying at or near the sea. These are built up by immense numbers of Coral Polyps. Fragments of shells, coral, and coral sand are piled up by wind and wave, and new lands are thus formed.

Coriolis Force: is the horizontal force exerted by the earth's rotation on the atmosphere. When the wind appears to be in uniform motion with respect to the earth, it is in fact in an accelerated motion in space as a result of the earth's rotation.

Cumulonimbus: a heavy dark typical thunderstorm Cloud of great vertical depth, towering upwards in huge, voluminous masses, the top being 4572 metres or more above the base. It is often spread out aloft in the form of an anvil. It usually gives showers of rain, snow or hail.

Cyclone and Anti-Cyclone: a system of winds in which the wind blows spirally towards a central region of low pressure is called Cyclone. The system of winds where the winds blow spirally outwards from a central region of high pressure is called an Anti-Cyclone.

Date Line: an error of one day occurs while travelling round the world. This line is situated 180° meridian from Greenwich and a ship while crossing this line eastwards goes forward by one day. While going westwards, it is back by one day. It is called the *International Date Line*.

Deccan Trap: is the old name of the Deccan lavas—an extensive series of basaltic lava deposits several thousand feet thick which cover nearly two lakh square miles in the north-west of Deccan. A prominent characteristic of the area are flat-topped hills and deep-cut valleys.

Deciduous Forests: are forests consisting of trees which are liable to shed leaves at a certain period. (The deciduous trees shed all the leaves together.)

Delta: is the triangular piece of

land formed by the deposition of mud and silt near the mouth of a river.

Denudation: the process of wearing away of rocks or surface whereby the underlying rocks are laid bare.

Dew: Dew is moisture deposited by condensation of water vapour on exposed objects, specially during cloudless nights.

Doldrums: a zone of the tropics where calm lasting for some weeks prevails, broken at times by erratic squalls and baffling winds.

Dunes: Sand dunes are elliptical or crescent-shaped mounds of loose sand produced by wind action. The dune has a gentle slope on wind-ward side; a steep slope on the leeward side.

Dust Devil: is a dusty whirlwind normally a few feet in diameter and about 30 metres tall, sometimes also wider and higher. Low pressure at the centre and strong vortex winds cause dust and small debris to be carried upwards making the whirl appear as a vertical tube or funnel. It forms overdusty, sandy barren soil strongly heated by the sun during fair weather.

Earthquakes: are movements of the earth's crust. These may be caused by volcanic eruptions, breaking of the strata under the strain of the contraction caused by the cooling of the earth's crust, the sudden generation and expanding of steam or due to the actual sinking of portion of the crust.

Echo-sounding: a method to determine the depth of the ocean by sending a sound wave which strikes the bottom of the ocean and is reflected back. The depth is determined according to the time taken by the echo's return.

Eclipses: See *lunar and solar eclipse*

Ecliptic: The apparent path of the sun's annual motion, as a result of the motion of the earth round it, being a great circle on the Celestial Sphere.

Epicentre (of earthquake): is a point at which earthquake breaks out.

Equator: an imaginary line encircling the earth at equal distance from the Poles. It is the dividing line between the northern and the southern hemispheres. It is the zero latitude of our maps.

Equigravisphere: it is the locus of a point in space at which the gravity is constant. It is almost a spherical surface around the earth.

Equinox: the two periods in the year (about March 21 -Vernal or Spring Equinox, and about Sep 22-- Autumnal Equinox) when day and night are equal. This occurs when the sun is vertical over the Equator on these two dates.

Erosion: the gradual removing or wearing away of portions of the earth's surface by natural agencies i.e., rain, snow, wind etc.

Estuary: a broad channel formed by mingling of the sea and river water such as Thames Estuary.

Fauna: The animal life of a region or of a geological period

Fjord: It is a long, narrow rock-bound sea-inlet; as on the Coast of Norway.

Flora: the plant life of a region or of a geological period.

Fog and mist: a mist or a fog is formed when the water vapour is condensed but remains suspended in air like a cloud close to the surface of the earth. A mist is just the same as a cloud near the ground. In a fog, the particles of water are smaller than in a mist.

Fossils: the remains or the forms of a plant or animal which have been buried and preserved for a long period in the rocks of the earth's crust, are called fossils.

Freezing point: Temperature at which a liquid becomes solidified. For example water becomes ice at 0°C.

Full Moon and New Moon: When the earth is between the sun and the moon, full moon occurs; but when the moon is between the earth and the sun, new moon results

Geysers: are natural springs which, at more or less regular intervals, explosively eject into the air columns of steam and hot water.

Glaciers: consolidated masses of snow which descend very gradually down the valleys and the slopes of mountains and after passing the snow-line, melt and run off in stream; occur in Greenland, Antarctic etc.

Gorge: is a narrow opening between hills; it is a ravine especially one, that gives passage to a stream.

Great Bear: a constellation of seven stars which helps to find out the point of the compass.

Greenwich Mean Time: is local time of the Greenwich Observatory, London (on the zero meridian) which

is standard time of Britain and Western Europe.

Gulf Stream: is a warm ocean current emerging from the Gulf of Mexico.

Halo round the moon: a ring of light or colour round the moon caused by reflection by ice-crystals on the surface of the moon.

Hinterland: is the region or land lying behind a sea port and which supplies the bulk of the exports, and in which are distributed the bulk of the imports of that seaport.

Hoar-frost: is applied to the needles or feather-like crystals of ice deposited on the ground, in the same manner as dew.

Horse Latitudes: Belts of Calm between regions of the Trade Winds and Westerlies of higher latitudes.

Hurricanes and Typhoons: Strong winds or violent storms whirling round the centre or 'eye' of the storm with a counter-clockwise motion in the Northern Hemisphere and clockwise in the Southern are known as *Hurricanes* in the West Indies; and *Typhoons* in the China Seas.

The violent storms are caused by difference in temperature and may follow along the line where cold and warm currents meet. The hurricanes moving off the coast of the United States occur where the Gulf Stream and the Cold Wall meet. The typhoons of the Pacific occur along with course of Japan Current (Kuro-Siwo).

Iceberg: a mass of land ice broken off or 'calved' from the end of a glacier or from an ice barrier, floating on the sea.

Igloo: Eskimo dome-shaped hut (native house).

Indian Standard Time: The Standard Time of India is the local time of a place near Allahabad 82½°E longitude. It is exactly 5½ hours in advance of the Greenwich Time.

Isobars: are lines on a map joining those places which have the same barometric pressure.

Isogonic lines: contour lines of magnetic declination; lines at equal angles.

Isohel: is a contour line showing equal amount of sunshine.

Isohyets: are contour lines of equal rainfall.

Isotherm: are lines on a map joining those places which have the

same mean temperature.

Isthmus: a narrow strip of land which joins two large land areas or joins a peninsula to the main land e.g., Isthmus of Panama and the Isthmus of Suez.

Kuro-Siwo: ocean current of warm water flowing north-east along Pacific coast of Kyushu, Shikoku and S. Honshu (Japan). It exerts slight warming influence on the ocean in winter.

Lagoon: a stretch of shallow water opening out upon the sea. Venice is built on lagoons.

Lake: a large or considerable body of water within land such as Wular Lake in Kashmir.

Latitude: the distance of any place north or south of the equator is called the latitude of that place.

Lava: When a volcano erupts, the molten material which flows from the interior of the earth to the surface from the crater is called lava.

Leap Year: A year of 366 days, occurring every fourth year in Christian Calendar.

Longitude: of a place is its distance east or west of a fixed meridian.

Lunar eclipse: It is the partial or complete obscuration of the moon's surface when the earth comes in between the sun and the moon. The moon, when it moves through the shadow of the earth, loses its bright direct illumination by the sun, although its disc still remains faintly visible.

An eclipse of the moon is visible and presents the same features at all places on the earth where the moon is above the horizon. The lunar eclipse can be seen with the naked eye, field glass or a small telescope.

Magma: The molten material existing between the solid rock of the earth's crust which sometimes reveals itself on its emission from a volcano.

Magnetic Pole of the Earth: If at any point on the surface of the earth, magnetic compass is allowed to swing freely in a horizontal plane, it will point approximately in the direction of the North and the South Poles. The actual points indicated by the compass needles are known as the North and South Magnetic Poles of the earth.

Magnetic Storms: large irregular disturbances superimposed upon the normal magnetic field of the earth. They may occur at any time but are

most frequent during equinoctical months in years of sunspot maxima.

Meridian or lines of longitude: These are lines drawn on a map (or globe) showing the longitude of a place. These lines join the north and south pole cutting the Equator at right angles.

Meteorites: shooting stars or solid bodies that become heated and visible as they pass through the atmosphere of earth. Some of these reach the ground. The object which has been a meteor in flight then becomes a meteorite.

Meteors: are small pieces of solid matter which appear in the earth's atmosphere as 'shooting star' from outer space and become visible through incandescence caused by the resistance of the air to its passage.

Midnight Sun: The sun rises at the North Pole in the 21st of March and this Pole remains in light till the 23rd September. Thus even at night for some months, the sun is visible near the North Pole. This phenomena is called Midnight Sun.

Mineral and Ore: Mineral is a natural substance having a characteristic chemical composition. It differs from rocks in that it is mostly crystalline. Ore is a mineral aggregate. It is mined for the minerals which can be obtained from it after refining.

Mirages: an optical illusion which is often witnessed in deserts when the objects on the surface of the earth at some distance appear as if reflected from surface of water owing to unequal heating of the different parts of the atmosphere.

Neap Tides: See *Spring Tides* and *Neap Tides*.

Nebulae: A misty faint patch of light seen in the sky produced by groups of stars too remote to be seen singly.

North Pole: the end of the axis of the earth in the North.

Oasis: an area in the midst of a desert which is made by the presence of water. Sometimes, it consists of a fertile region several hundred square miles, sometimes it merely consists of a clump of palm-trees.

Ocean Currents: are rivers of warm or cold water flowing in an ocean. Their banks and beds also consist of water.

Ocean of Storms: a location on the Moon's surface where Russia's

spacecraft Luna-9 and America's Surveyor-3 successfully soft-landed on Feb 3 and April 20, 1967 respectively.

The two American astronauts—Charles Conrad and Alan Bean—of Apollo-12 mission, had also landed in this area in their lunar module "intrepid" on November 19, 1969.

Pampas: (in Argentina) vast plains stretching from the Rio Negro in S. to the Gran Chaco in the N. and E. from the Andes to the Atlantic; woodless level country.

Parasite: an animal or plant living in or upon another.

Peneplain: a land surface so worn down by denudation as to be almost a plain.

Peninsula: A stretch of land almost surrounded by water.

Perigee: a heavenly body's point of lowest distance from the earth.

Plateau: is an elevated tract of land. Plateaux are of several kinds—e.g., exceptionally high (as Tibet), traversed by rivers and mountain ranges as in Spain, bordered by mountains and surrounded by the ocean as the Deccan Plateau in India.

Polar Regions: Arctic and Antarctic i.e., regions relating to North Pole and the regions relating to South Pole respectively.

Polar Winds: are Easterly Winds which blow from the cold Polar regions towards warm regions (towards Equator).

Pole Star: is the star visible in northern hemisphere only. It helps to determine the latitude of a place. The height of the Pole Star at a place is the latitude of that place. The height of the Pole Star can be measured by means of an instrument called the Sextant. The Pole Star always points to the north. Thus it also helps to know the direction at night.

Port: harbour or a town with a harbour situated at sea-coast.

Prairies: extensive treeless tracts situated in Central and North America. These are covered with tall coarse grass.

Precipitation: is a term in meteorology meaning the deposits of water in either liquid or solid form which reach the earth from the atmosphere. It includes not only rain but also snow, sleet, and hail falling from the clouds, as well as dew and hoar frost.

Prime Meridian: is zero degree longitude and is the Meridian from which the longitude of a place is measured. The meridian which passes through the Royal Observatory Greenwich (near London) has been accepted as the Prime Meridian by most of the nations.

Rabi Crop: Rabi crops are winter crops sown in October and November and reaped in April. These are: wheat, gram, linseed and mustard.

Rain Shadow: an area which has a relatively small average rainfall because it is sheltered from the prevailing rain-bearing winds by a range of mountains or hills; it is situated on the leeward side of the range.

Relative Humidity: is the ratio between the actual amount of water vapour in a given volume of the air and the amount which would be present if the air were saturated at the same temperature.

Relief rains: when winds full of moisture strike a high mountain range, they rise up and reach colder layers of air where they condense and fall as rain. Such rains are known as relief rains.

Roaring forties: westerly winds blowing throughout the year over the oceans of the southern hemisphere between 40° and 60° south. Being unobstructed by land and regular, these winds are extremely strong.

Rotation of Crops: The fertility of the soil diminishes after each cultivation. Consequently it results in the decrease of production year after year. The tendency towards diminishing return can be checked to a certain extent by the application of measures and introduction of the rotation of crops.

Sand dune: is a small hillock of sand. Such hillocks are generally formed in deserts or along the sea-coast. Wind carrying sand particles comes up against an obstacle of some kind and the particles are piled into a heap. The heap gradually increases in size till it becomes a small hill. The shape of a sand dune is always changing by the action of the wind. When the wind goes on blowing in the same direction, sand dunes slowly travel forward. When this happens at the edge of a desert, it sometimes results in cities being buried. The movement of sand dunes is checked by sowing plants and trees.

Sargasso Sea: It is a part of the

North Atlantic between 29° and 40° north latitude and 35° and 75° west longitude; so called on account of quantity of drifting sea-weed (*Sargassum bacciferum*).

Satellites: are the secondary bodies which revolve round a planet, as the planets revolve round the sun—Moon is a satellite of the earth.

Savannas: a tropical grassland. It is the region bordering the equatorial forests in each hemisphere. The *Llanos* and *Pampas* of South America are chief examples of Savannas: but extensive Savannas are in Africa.

Sea-breezes: are winds blowing from the sea towards the land by day. Land breezes are winds blowing from the land towards the sea by night.

Sea of Tranquility: is one of the maria on the moon, the place where astronauts Neil Armstrong and Edwin Aldrin landed on July 21, 1969 and set foot on the lunar soil for the first time in the annals of man.

Seismograph: is an instrument used for recording earthquake shocks.

Selvas: The basin of the river Amazon in South America situated in the dense Equatorial Forest region.

Sidereal day: is the time during which the earth makes a complete revolution on its axis in respect of the fixed stars—being 23 hours 55 mts 4.092 seconds.

Smoke Screen: a cloud of smoke raised to conceal movements.

Snow-line: the line on a mountain slope which represents the lower limit of perpetual snow; below this line any snow which falls is melted during summer season.

Solar day: It is the interval of time between successive occasions when the sun is in the meridian of any fixed place. As the earth travels in its orbit round the sun in the same sense of rotation as that of its rotation about its axis, the solar day is slightly longer than the sidereal day, say about four minutes longer.

Solar Eclipse: is the partial or complete obscuration of the sun because of the passage of the moon in front of it i.e., when moon comes between the sun and the earth.

Solar System: the sun and the heavenly bodies like planets and their satellites which revolve round it under its gravitational force. The planets circle round the sun in orbits. Arranged in order to their distance they

are—Mercury, nearest to the sun, then Venus (brightest), Earth, Mars, Jupiter (largest), Saturn, Uranus, Neptune and Pluto.

Solar Wind: It is a moving solar plasma (or gas with electricity charged particles) consisting primarily of protons having energies of about a thousand electron volts each. Changes in the behaviour of solar winds are generally noticed after a period of activity on the sun, when the number of particles as also their speeds increase.

Solar Year: (or Tropical Year) the average interval between two successive returns of the Sun to the first point of Aries, is 365.2422 mean solar days; the sidereal year is 365.2564 mean solar days.

Solstice: is the geographical term which is used for the position of earth on 21st June and 22nd December. It indicates the time when the sun reaches its maximum distance from the Equator. It is called Summer Solstice when it touches the Tropic of Cancer about the 21st of June and Winter Solstice when it touches that of Capricorn about 22nd December.

Sounding Balloon: a balloon with a meteorograph attached to it. It is used for taking 'sounding' of the upper air. It is inflated with hydrogen and then set free. It rises to a height of several miles. The self-recording instruments of the Meteorograph register the temperature, pressure and humidity of different heights.

Spring Tides and Neap Tides: When a high tide is caused twice a month at a new moon and again when the moon is full, spring tide is caused as a result of combined attraction of the sun and the moon.

When the high tide is not so high, nor the low tide so low, neap tides are caused as a result of the difference of attraction of the sun and the moon.

Standard Time and Local Time: Standard Time is a uniform time adopted by all places in India without regard to their local time. It is usual for each country to have its standard time for use over the whole country as it would be very difficult if every town or village had its own local time and whenever we moved from one place to another, we should have to alter our watches.

Local Time: is the time reckoned from the mid-day sun. It would, therefore, be different at different

places.

Steppes: This is the region of temperate grass lands in the northern hemisphere. The region lies in the interior of great land masses and is far removed from the sea. The climate is extreme i.e., summers are very hot and winters very cold; rainfall is scanty.

Sun Dogs: a mock sun or parhelion.

Tektites: are natural round shaped glassy objects found around the world mainly in Czechoslovakia, Indonesia and Australia. According to some scientists, they are the fall-out of the splash of meteoric matter on earth.

Thunderstorm: When the atmosphere is unstable, pockets of air warmer than other pockets at the same level rise and cause convective overturning in the atmosphere. This leads to the formation of cumulus clouds. In large cumulus clouds, localised centres of electric charge develop. The spark discharged between these centres, or between them and the earth, appear as lightning and thunder.

Tornadoes: are violent whirlwinds characterised by a black funnel-shaped cloud hanging from heavy cumulonimbus. They are usually a few hundred feet in the diameter and occur frequently in the Mississippi region of the U.S.A. The wind speeds within them may exceed 320 km per hour.

Trade Winds: The rays of the sun fall almost vertically at the Equator and the air there becomes hot and the pressure is low. The air rises towards the Poles and descends 30°N and 30°S. The pressure is high near 33°N and 33°S. Because winds blow from high-pressure to low-pressure areas, winds from over these altitudes blow towards the Equator and the Trade Winds are caused.

Tributary and Distributary: Tributary is a small rivulet which runs into main stream of a river. Distributary is a branch or outlet which leaves a main river and does not rejoin it, carrying its water to the sea or a lake.

Tropical Cyclone: a relatively small but very intense depression which originates in tropical regions. In such cyclones, winds of hurricane strength circulate round the centre of the storm known as 'eye' of the storm.

Tropics: imaginary circles on the celestial sphere (earth) about 23°-28' North (Tropic of Cancer) or South (The

Tropic of Capricorn) of the Equator, when the sun turns on reaching its greatest declination north or south.

True North: is the geographical meridian. Although a compass is used to find the true North, it points somewhat east or west of true north at most places due to magnetic declination.

Tundras: Tundras are vast stretches of desert land in Arctic and Antarctic regions. The region is too cold for the growth of trees. The surface remains frozen for three quarters of the year. Vegetation is moss and lichen. The reindeer is the only animal which is the source of milk, meat and dress for the poor inhabitants of these 'barren lands'.

Twilight: the diffused light over the sky after the sunset or before sunrise caused by reflection of sunlight from higher portion of the atmosphere.

Typhoons: violent storms that occur between July and October along the eastern sea-board of Asia between the Philippines and Japan.

Ursa Major: the Greater Bear, a constellation familiar to all observers because of the brilliance of the seven stars forming its outline. It never sets in these latitudes.

Ursa Minor: the Lesser Bear Constellation. It has, like Ursa Major, seven prominent stars, of which the Pole Star is the brightest.

Volcanoes: are conical hills with funnel-shaped hollows from which eruption of hot materials take place. The bottoms of the hollows lead into the interior of the earth from which gases, lava or steam find their way to the surface.

Water-spout: a column or spout of water formed between the sea and cloud. It is a Tornado occurring at sea. The phenomenon occurs when portion of cloud shaped like an inverted cone appears to descend from a heavy cumulonimbus cloud till it meets a cone of spray raised from the sea forming a spout of water between sea and cloud. It may be several feet high and may last up to half an hour.

Water Table: the surface below in which fissures and pores in the strata are saturated with water.

Weather: is the name given to the atmospheric conditions e.g., temperature, rainfall, humidity, winds, sunshine and cloudiness of a particular place on a particular day.

Zenith: the point on the celestial sphere (earth) or in the heavens vertically above the observer's head.

Zones: the globe (earth) is divided into five regions and these regions are called Zones. These are (1) Torrid Zone between the Tropic of Cancer and the Tropic of Capricorn; (2) North Temperate Zone between 23½° north (Tropic of Cancer) and 66½° north (Arctic Circle); (3) South Temperate Zone between 23½° south (Tropic of Capricorn) and 66½° south (Antarctic Circle); (4) North Frigid Zone between 66½°N and 90°N; (5) South Frigid Zone between 66½°S and 90°S.

CHIEF CROPS AND PRODUCING STATES

(The first mentioned is the chief producing State)

Bajra (millets): Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, Punjab, Andhra Pradesh and Rajasthan.

Barley: U.P., Bihar, Haryana.

Cardamom: Karnataka.

Cashewnut: Kerala.

Cinchona: Tamil Nadu (Nilgiri Hills); West Bengal (Darjeeling).

Coffee: Karnataka; Tamil Nadu (Nilgiri Hills) and Kerala.

Cotton: Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Punjab and Maharashtra.

Cotton Seeds: Maharashtra, Punjab, Madhya Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu.

Gram and Pulses: U.P., Madhya Pradesh, Haryana, Punjab, Maharashtra and Karnataka.

Groundnut: Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh and Andhra Pradesh.

Hemp: Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh and U.P.

Jute: Assam, West Bengal, Bihar and Orissa.

Linseed: Madhya Pradesh, Bihar, Orissa, U.P., Maharashtra and West Bengal.

Maize: U.P., Bihar and the Punjab.

Mustard and Rape-seed (Sarson): U.P., West Bengal, Punjab, Bihar and Orissa.

Poppy (opium plant): U.P., Madhya Pradesh, Punjab, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu and Kashmir State.

Rice: Andhra Pradesh, West Bengal, Madhya Pradesh, Bihar, Tamil Nadu and Orissa.

Rubber: Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Kar-

nataka.

Saffron: Jammu and Kashmir State

Silk: Karnataka, Kashmir, West Bengal and Assam.

Spices: Pepper in Kerala and West Bengal, Chillies in West Bengal, Tamil Nadu and Maharashtra; Cardamom in Karnataka and Tamil Nadu; Betelnuts in West Bengal and South India.

Sugarcane: U.P., Bihar, West Bengal, Punjab and Maharashtra.

Tea: Assam, West Bengal, Kerala and Tamil Nadu (Nilgiri Hills), U.P. (Dehradun), Kerala and F.P. (Kangra Hills).

Tobacco: Andhra, Bihar, U.P., West Bengal, Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu and Karnataka.

Wheat: U.P., Punjab, Haryana and Madhya Pradesh. To some extent in Bihar, Rajasthan and Maharashtra.

Kharif and Rabi Crops

Kharif Crops: are crops raised in autumn as a result of sowing done in June-July. These are cotton, rice, maize, and millets.

Rabi Crops: are winter crops sown in October and November and reaped in April. These are wheat, gram, linseed and mustard.

Favourable climate and soil conditions for the growth of certain crops

Wheat: Its plant requires a cool climate in the beginning, warm and dry weather at the time of harvesting and rainfall at intervals—between 20" to 30". A clayey soil is very favourable.

Barley: cool climate and a soil poorer than that required for wheat.

Rice: hot and moist climate with rainfall from 40" to 80" or over and rich soil. The plant is required to remain under water for several days in the beginning. A marshy soil is very suitable.

Sugarcane: an evenly high temperature with sufficient rainfall—about 40". It needs a fertile soil, having lime and salt in it.

Tobacco: hot and moist climate; rich soil.

Spices: (pepper, cinnamon, cardamom, cloves, nutmegs); hot, moist and even climate.

Opium: (opium is solidified juice of the poppy plant). It requires hot and moist climate with a rich soil.

Maize: warm and moist (but not very moist) climate.

Cotton: It requires warm, moist and even climate where summer is long and where the soil contains salt. Sea-breeze is beneficial for quality of the fibre. The ideal situation for plantation is lowlands near the sea coast or on islands in semi-tropical latitudes.

Jute: It requires a high temperature with a minimum of about 80°F during the period of growth. It also needs rich sandy soil, sufficient rainfall well distributed over the period of growth, ample supply of water for soaking of plants and for washing the stripped fibre. It also needs suitable and sufficient labour to handle the crop at the proper time.

Tea: (Tea is dried leaves of an evergreen shrub). It requires warm and moist climate. It is grown on mountain slopes. At least 60" annual rainfall in showers is needed for the new leaves to sprout. If water is allowed to stay, the roots are destroyed. So mountain slopes on which water does not accumulate are necessary. Soil containing iron is an additional advantage.

Coffee: requires warm and moist climate and a height between 457 metres and 762 metres—rainfall above 60". The plant cannot stand extreme cold. When young, the plant is required to be protected from strong sunshine.

Millets: (Jawar and Bajra) require a hot and sufficiently dry climate and poor soil.

Groundnuts: require a hot climate and moderate rainfall 20" to 40". Soil should be light and sandy.

Oilseeds: require hot and moist climate and a rich soil.

MINERAL RESOURCES OF INDIA

India possesses huge mineral wealth but it is not much exploited. Coal, gold, mica, building materials, salt, petroleum, manganese ore, iron ore, copper ore and ilmenite are produced in quantities to be of real importance to industry and other sectors of economy. Out of these, mica, manganese ore and ilmenite are largely exported. India has, however, adequate resources of industrial clay, steatite, bauxite, chromite, titanium ore etc.

Minerals—Where Found

(The first-mentioned is the State in which the mineral is chiefly found)

Aluminium: Kerala State.

Antimony: Antimony deposits are found in the Punjab and Karnataka.

Asbestos: Karnataka and Rajasthan.

Barytes: (Barium Sulphate) Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Manbhum and Singhbhum districts of Bihar.

Bauxite: Ranchi and Palamau districts of Bihar, Belgaum, Kharia and Thana districts of Maharashtra; Balaghat, Jabalpur, Mandia and Bilaspur districts of Madhya Pradesh.

Bantonite: Rajasthan and Jammu and Kashmir State.

Beryllium Sands: Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Kashmir and Bihar.

Cement: Katni in M.P., Lakheri in Rajasthan, Jabalpur (M.P.), Guntur (Andhra), Jhinkapani (Singhbhum district of Bihar), Surajpur (Haryana).

China Clay: Rajmahal Hills, Singhbhum district of Bihar, Kerala.

Chromite: Singhbhum and Bhagapur (Bihar); Ratnagiri, Salem (Tamil Nadu); Karnataka; Keonjhar (Orissa); Ladakh (Kashmir).

Coal: Raniganj (West Bengal); Jharia, Bokaro, Giridih, Karanpur (Bihar); Panch Valley and Chanda (M.P.); Singareni (Andhra) and Mukum (Assam).

Cobalt: Rajasthan and Kerala.

Copper: Bihar (Singhbhum and Barajamda); Rajasthan (Khetri).

Corborundum: Khasi Hills (Assam); Rewa (M.P.); Salem (Tamil Nadu); Karnataka and Kashmir.

Diamond: Diamond mines are found in Panna district of Madhya Pradesh.

Feldspar: Burdwan (West Bengal); Rewa (M.P.); Tiruchirapalli (Tamil Nadu); Alwar and Ajmer.

Fuller's Earth: (soft clay used in soap-making) is found in Rajasthan, M.P. and Karnataka.

Gold: Kolar gold-fields (Karnataka).

Graphite: Rajasthan, Andhra, Madhya Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Orissa and Kerala.

Gypsum: Bikaner and Jodhpur (Rajasthan), Tiruchirapalli (Tamil Nadu), Gujarat and Himachal Pradesh.

Heavy Water: Talchar in Orissa; Kota in Rajasthan; Baroda in Gujarat; Tuticorin in Tamil Nadu; Nangal in Punjab.

Ilmenite: Kerala. Occurs in the "Bank Sands" of the beaches near Quilon.

Iron Ore: Singhbhum (Bihar), Keonjhar and Mayurbhanj (Orissa).

Kaynite: largest deposits occur at Kharswan near Jamshedpur; Singhbhum (Bihar).

Lac: W. Bengal.

Lead: Zawar in Udaipur and at the Banjavi mines in Jaipur (Rajasthan).

Lignite: Neyveli in South Arcot district (Tamil Nadu).

Limestone: Singareni and Singhbhum (Bihar), Panchmahal (Gujarat), Balaghat, Bhandara, Chhindwara, Nagpur, Indore, Vishakhapatnam, Sandur (Tamil Nadu).

Manganese: Madhya Pradesh.

Marble: Jaipur (Rajasthan).

Mica: Koderma in Hazaribagh district, Monghyr (Bihar), Nellore in Andhra Pradesh.

Monazite Sands: are found in abundance in Travancore coast (Kerala State).

Nitre: Bihar, U.P., Tamil Nadu and Punjab.

Petroleum: Digboi, Badarpur, Musimpur and Patharia fields of Assam, Cambay basin near Baroda where oilfields have been discovered and production has started. Large-scale drilling for oil is in progress in India in Bombay and Gujarat.

Pitchblende: Gaya (Bihar).

Red Stone: Jodhpur (Rajasthan).

Salt: Sambhar Lake (Rajasthan), and is also obtained from ocean water of Ranns of Kutch, on the north-western and south-eastern littoral (sea-shore) of India.

Saltpetre: Punjab, U.P. and Bihar.

Silmanite: Khasi Hills (Assam); Rewa (M.P.). Silmanite is used in the manufacture of furnace-lining in iron and steel industry. It is also used in glass and ceramic industry.

Silver: goldfields (Karnataka); Singhbhum and Manbhum (Bihar); Tamil Nadu and Rajasthan;

Steatite: Guntur (Andhra), Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, U.P., Karnataka and Rajasthan.

Tin: (Bihar) Hazaribagh district.

Thorium: (Processed from monazite sand); Travancore (Kerala).

Tungsten: Bihar, Nagpur (Maharashtra State) and Marwar.

Uranium: Bihar.

Zinc: from Zawar mines in Udaipur (Rajasthan).

Zircon: occurs in the beach sands of Kerala and Cape Comorin.

World's Largest producers of Crops, Minerals, Industrial goods etc.

(The first mentioned country in each case shown in italics is the largest producer)

Aluminium: U.S.A., Canada, Norway, Switzerland, France and India.

Carpets: Iran, India.

Cheese: U.S.A., England, Netherlands and Australia.

Coal: U.S.A., England, Germany, U.S.S.R., Australia and India.

Coca: Ghana, S. America and West Indies.

Coffee: Brazil.

Copper: Chile.

Cotton: U.S.A., U.S.S.R., Egypt, India, Brazil, Argentina and Pakistan

Electric Bulbs: England, U.S.A., India.

Gold: South Africa, Australia, Canada, S. America, India.

Grapes: France, Italy, Portugal, California (U.S.A.).

Ilmenite: India

Iron ore: U.S.A., U.S.S.R., U.K., France, Germany India and Spain.

Jute: Bangladesh, India.

Manganese: India.

Meat: Argentina.

Mercury: Italy, Spain and U.S.A

Monazite: India supplies 88% of the world's need.

Peaches: India.

Petroleum: U.S.A., Venezuela, U.S.S.R., Middle East countries, Iran and Burma.

Plastic Goods: U.S.A., England.

Rice: China, Japan, Burma, India

Rubber: Malaysia, Indonesia and Sri Lanka.

Silk: China, U.S.A., France.

Silver: Mexico, U.S.A., Peru and India.

Steel: U.S.A., Germany, U.S.S.R. and England.

Tea: China, India, Sri Lanka, Japan and Indonesia.

Tin: Malaysia, Indonesia.

Wheat: U.S.S.R., U.S.A., Canada, Argentina, Australia.

Wool: Australia, Argentina, New Zealand and Union of South Africa.

NATIONAL PARKS AND GAME SANCTUARIES

Under the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972, 53 national parks and 247 sanctuaries have been constituted. The total area covered by these parks and sanctuaries is about 90,000 square km—which comes to three per cent of the total land area of India and 12 per cent of the total forest area.

National Parks

Corbett National Park (U.P.).

Hazaribagh National Park (Bihar).

Kanha National Park (M.P.).

Shivapuri National Park (U.P.).

Game Sanctuaries

Bandipur (Karnataka).

Chandraprabha (U.P.).

Dachigam (Kashmir).

Ghana Bird Sanctuary (Rajasthan).

Gir Forest (Gujarat).

Jaladapara (West Bengal).

Kaziranga (Assam).

Manas (Assam).

Mudumalai (Tamil Nadu).

Periyar (Kerala).

Ranganthitto Bird Sanctuary (Karnataka).

Vedanthangai Bird Sanctuary (Tamil Nadu).

Chandaka Elephant Sanctuary (Orissa).

INDIAN PORTS

Visakhapatnam, Calcutta, Madras, Paradeep, Tuticorin, Bombay, Cochin; Mangalore, Marmagoa, Kandla and Nhava Sheva are eleven major ports of India. (A major port is one which is capable of taking ocean-going steamers with a registered tonnage of 4000 or more and berth them along harbour and further that such steamers carry a minimum of the requisite trade of 5,000,000 tons per annum).

Principal Indian Ports

Alleppey (Kerala); Bhatkal (Karnataka), Bhavnagar (Gujarat); Bombay (Maharashtra); Calcutta (W. Bengal); Calicut (Kerala); Cochin (Kerala); Coconada (Andhra Pradesh); Kandla (Gujarat); Karaikal (Tamil Nadu); Madras (Tamil Nadu); Mangalore (Karnataka); Marmagoa (Goa); Nhava

Sheva (Maharashtra); Pondicherry; Paradeep (Orissa); Quilon (Kerala); Surat (Gujarat); Tuticorin (Tamil Nadu); Visakhapatnam (Andhra Pradesh).

FORESTS IN INDIA

One fifth of the total area of India is covered with forests. These forests are mostly found in the following regions: (1) Assam Hills (2) The Sundarbans (3) The Himalayas (4) The Terai (5) The Western Ghats (6) The Eastern Ghats (7) Central India Hills (8) The Shivalik Hills (9) Chhota Nagpur (M.P.) (10) Western Coast Strip.

India has an area of 747.2 lakh hectares notified as forests. Of these 397.8 hectares is classified as reserved and 216.5 lakh hectares as protected.

Forest Products: Rubber, Teak, Sal Wood, Coconut, Deodar, Pine wood, Cinchona, Mulberry, Dhoop and Bamboo.

Industries dependent on forests: Paper, Match, Resin, Lac and Rubber.

THE UNIVERSE

The Universe is infinite in time and space. We do not know when it began or when it will end. When it was first conceived as an orderly unit, it was called *Cosmos*. The studies relating to the cosmos were known as *Cosmogony* or *Cosmology*. Today they are called as Space and Space Sciences. Our Solar system is part of the Galaxy, Milky Way, which in turn is the part of the Universe.

Outer Space: The difference between Space and Outer Space is that Space means the whole universe including the earth while Outer Space means all space other than the earth. To measure the dimensions of outer space units of measurement like Light Year and Astronomical Unit (A.U.) are used.

Light Year: It is the distance covered by light in one year in vacuum travelling at a speed of 299,792.5 km per second.

Astronomical Unit: It is the mean distance between the sun and the earth. A.U. in terrestrial measurements is approximately 150 million km. A light year is made up of about 60,000 A.U.s.

Galaxies: Galaxies are huge congregations of stars held together by force of gravity. A structural analysis brings out three major forms—*Spiral*, *Elliptical* and *Irregular*. Spiral galaxies have a central nucleus with great spiral arms trailing round it. The Milky Way

and the *Andromeda Galaxy* belong to this group. Elliptical galaxies show purely elliptical shape without any spiral arm and account for about 17 per cent of the known galaxies.

The Milky Way: It is our home galaxy. The main body is a disc 100,000 light years across with a globular nucleus of about 16,000 light years in diameter. The galaxy consists of over 100 billion stars.

Solar System: The solar system is centred in the Sun. The Sun is the head of a family of 9 planets—Mercury, Venus, Earth, Mars, Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, Neptune and Pluto—not less than 46 satellites accompanying the planets, hundreds of asteroids and thousands of comets.

The Solar system lies about 30,000 to 33,000 light years from the centre of the galaxy.

The planets are divided into the inner planets—Mercury, Venus, Earth and Mars—and outer planets—Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus and Neptune. The earth is the largest of the inner planets. All the inner planets are dense rocky bodies and resemble earth. The outer planets are very big, with large satellite families. They are mostly composed of hydrogen and helium. Rotating on their own axis, the planets revolve round the sun in long elliptical orbits.

The Sun: It is one of the stars in the Milky Way. Estimates place it at about 32,000 light years from the centre of the galaxy. It takes 250 million years to complete one revolution around the centre. This period is called a *cosmic year*. It is composed mostly of hydrogen.

The glowing surface of the sun, which we see, is called *Photosphere*. Above it is *Chromosphere*. Beyond this layer is *Corona* which is visible during eclipses. *Sunspots* are dark patches noticed on the surface of the sun. They appear dark because they are cooler than the surface.

The Moon: It is the only satellite of the Earth. It has a diameter of 3475 km as against the earth's 12,700 km. The gravitational pull is $\frac{1}{6}$ th of the earth. Maximum distance (apogee) that the moon may keep from the earth is 406,000 km and the minimum (perigee) 346,000 km. The Moon revolves round the earth in 27 days, 7 hours 43 minutes 11.47 seconds and rotates on its axis in exactly the same time. This is why we see only one side of the moon. It takes 1.3 seconds

for moonlight to reach the earth. Sunlight takes 8 minutes 16.6 seconds.

THE EARTH

Land Surface 148,950,800 sq km; **Water Surface** 361,149,700 km; **Equatorial Circumference** 40,067 km; **Mean distance from Sun** 149,407,000 km; **Time of Rotation on its axis** 23 hrs 56 min 4.09 sec; **Period of revolution round the Sun** 365 days 5 hrs 48 min 45.51 sec; **Inclination of the axis to the plane of the ecliptic** 23° 27'; **Speed of rockets** (velocity required to rise up in atmosphere) a minimum of 8 km per second; **Escape Velocity** (speed necessary to break away from earth into outer space) 11 km per second.

Structure: The centre of the earth is called *Inner Core* which is 1300 km thick. It is surrounded by *Outer Core* which is 2080 km thick. The *Outer Core* is molten. The outer core is surrounded by the *Mantle* which is 2900 km thick. The *Mantle* is topped by the *crust* which varies in thickness—from 12 to 60 km.

The outer surface is divided into four spheres:

Lithosphere means the entire top crust and includes not only land surface but also the ocean floor. **Hydrosphere** is the water surface which includes the oceans, the lakes and the rivers. **Atmosphere** is the blanket of air that envelopes the earth. **Biosphere** is the sphere of life which spreads over all three spheres.

Rocks: Rocks are classified into three groups—the *Igneous*, the *Sedimentary* and *Metamorphic*.

Igneous rocks are formed by the solidification of the molten matter or magma. Example of *Igneous rocks*: *Dolerite*, *Basalt* and *Granite*.

Sedimentary rocks are formed by the particles, grains or fragments derived from previously existing rocks. These rocks are distinguished from other rocks by the presence of distinct layers. These layers are called *stratas*, as such, these rocks are also called *Stratified Rocks*. Examples: *Shale*, *Silt stone*, *Sand stone*, *Gypsum*, *Limestone* and *Chalk*.

Metamorphic Rocks: Sometimes, because of tremendous pressure and high temperatures, both igneous and sedimentary rocks may be altered so greatly in appearance and composition that they completely lose their original character. These are known as

Metamorphic Rocks. Examples: *Marble* (from limestone), *slate* (from clay), *gneiss* (from granite), *quartzite* (from sand).

Atmosphere: The atmosphere is an insulating blanket protecting the earth. Upto 50 km from earth it consists of about 78 per cent nitrogen, 21 per cent oxygen (O₂) and minor percentages of argon, carbon dioxide, neon, helium and methane. Above 50 km it is made up of atomic oxygen (O₁), ozone (O₃), helium and hydrogen. Atmosphere is arranged in 4 spheres: (1) *Troposphere* is the lowest layer and extends to a height of about 12 km from the earth. It contains nearly 2/3rd of the total mass of the atmosphere. (2) *Stratosphere* is region above Troposphere. It is about 30 km thick. (3) The next layer is called *Ionosphere*. This is about 970 km thick. (4) The upper-most layer is called *Exosphere*. It extends to a height of 1600 km from the earth.

Soils

(a) **Laterite Soils:** Formed in humid tropical regions. Are generally red because of presence of iron oxides. Because of high content of acidity are not suitable for agriculture.

(b) **Black Soils:** Found in humid tropical regions where volcanic activity occurred in past ages. This soil is useful for cotton cultivation, as such, is also known as black cotton soils.

(c) **Desert Soils:** The land surface is comprised of about 30 per cent of this soil.

(d) **Red Soils:** They are found in more arid tropical hot deserts.

(e) **Podzols:** Found in cool or cold humid areas particularly in coniferous forests extending in a broad belt across North Europe and the USSR.

(f) **Chernozems:** This soil is richest and most productive. It has developed in the grassy steppes and semi-arid land of the continents.

(g) **Brown and Grey Soils:** These soils are found in high and middle latitudes, where there are deciduous forests with such trees as oak and beech.

(h) **Chestnut Soils:** These are found on the arid side of the chernozem belt in North America and Asia. Under conditions of adequate rainfall or irrigation these are very fertile.

(i) **Alluvial soils:** This soil is a

result of the depositional activity of a stream. Some of the great river plains such as the Indus plain, the Gangetic plain, the Yangtze plain are the notable areas of this kind of soil. These areas are the most important fertile agricultural lands of the world.

(j) **Wind deposited Soil (loess):** It is caused by the deposition of wind-transported silt. Large deposits are found in North China.

Mountains and Deserts

Mountains are divided into 4 types: (1) **Fold Mountains** arise because the rocks in them have been buckled and crumpled by pressure. Just as table cloth, when pushed along a table, wrinkles up into folds, the rocks of the earth's crust react to lateral pressure to form folds. Examples: *Himalayas*, *Andes* (S. America), *Rockies* (N. America) and *Alps* (Europe).

(2) **Block Mountains** come into being as a result of vertical earth movements along cracks or faults. Example: *Vosges* (France) and *Black forest mountains* (W. Germany).

(3) **Volcanic Mountains** form as a result of volcanic eruptions. Examples: *Fujiyama* (Japan), *Vesuvius* (Italy) and *Chimborazo* and *Cotopaxi* (S. America) (4) **Residual Mountains** are mountains that have been deeply dissected and reduced by weathering and river action. Example: *Catskill mountains* of New York, USA.

Principal Peaks

Name	Country	Height (M)
ASIA		
Mt Everest	Nepal-Tibet	8,848
Mt Godwin	India	8,611
Kanchenjunga	Nepal-India	8,579
Dhaulagiri	Nepal	8,172
Nanga Parbat	India	8,126
Annapurna	Nepal	8,078
Nanda Devi	India	7,817
SOUTH AMERICA		
Aconcagua	Argentina	6,960
NORTH AMERICA		
McKinley	USA (Alaska)	6,194
AFRICA		
Kilimanjaro	Tanzania	5,888
EUROPE		
Elbruz	USSR	5,633
Mount Blanc	France	4,810

ANTARCTICA

Vinson Massif 5,139

Oceans

Name	Area (sq km)
Pacific	165,242,000
Atlantic	82,362,000
Indian	73,556,000
Arctic	13,986,000

Principal Seas: South China Sea; Caribbean Sea; Mediterranean Sea; Gulf of Mexico; Hudson Bay; Sea of Japan; North Sea; Black Sea; Red Sea; Persian Gulf; Arabian Sea; Bay of Bengal; Baltic Sea.

Great Deserts: Sahara (N. Africa); Libyan (N. Africa); Australian; Great Victoria (Australia); Syrian (Arabia); Arabian; Gobi (Mongolia); Kalahari (Botswana); Great Sandy (Australia); Takala Makan (China); Thar (N.W. India).

Continents

Name ; percentage of Earth's area; Highest point ; lowest point

Asia: 29.5; Everest; Dead Sea

Africa: 20.0; Kilimanjaro; Lake Assai

N. America: 16.3; McKinley; Death Valley

S. America: 11.8; Aconcagua; Valdes Penin

Europe: 6.5; Elbruz; Caspian Sea

Australia: 5.2; Koscowko; Lake Eyre

Antarctica: 9.6; Vinson Massif; —

Principal Rivers

(length in kms approximately)

Nile ... 6,679

Amazon (South America) ... 6,276

Mississippi-Missouri (N. America) ... 6,231

Yangtze-Kiang (China) ... 5,150

Yeinsie (Siberia) ... 4,506

Zaire (Africa) ... 4,828

Hawang-Ho (China) ... 4,345

Niger (Africa) ... 4,184

Largest Islands

Area in (sq km)

Greenland (N. Atlantic)

2,130,265

New Guinea (S.W. Pacific)

794,090

Borneo (S.W. Pacific)

751,078

Madagascar (Indian Ocean)

589,683

Baffin I. (Canadian Arctic)
476,066

Sumatra (Indian Ocean)
431,982

Great Britain (N. Atlantic)
229,522

Hinshu (N.W. Pacific)
226,087

Ellesmere (Canadian Arctic)
198,393

Victoria I. (Canadian Arctic)
192,695

Largest Lakes

Area in sq. km

Caspian Sea (U.S.S.R./Iran) ...
438,695

Superior (U.S.A./Canada) ... 82,413

Victoria Nyanza (Africa) ... 69,484

Aral (U.S.S.R.) ... 67,770

Huron (U.S.A./Canada) ... 59,570

Michigan (U.S.A.) ... 58,016

Baikal (U.S.S.R.) ... 34,180

Tanganyika (Africa) ... 31,999

Great Bear (Canada) ... 31,598

Malawi (Africa) ... 28,490

NATURAL REGIONS OF THE WORLD

A natural region includes the whole of that area on the earth, which has almost uniform conditions of relief, temperature, vegetation and human activities. All the important types have been grouped into four categories. Each of these is further sub-divided into a number of climatic types.

(A) Tropical Climates

(i) **Equatorial Type:** Found near Equator between 0° to 10° north and south of Equator. It includes: The Amazon lowlands and coast of the Guianas in South America; The Congo Basin and the Guinea Coast in Africa; Malaysia, Indonesia, New Guinea and parts of Philippines in Asia.

(ii) **Tropical Monsoon Type:** Found roughly between 10° and 25° both north and south of the Equator. The best developed monsoon regions are found in South and south-east Asia. These include Pakistan, India, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Burma, Cambodia, Vietnam, South China, Western Philippines. South of Equator the region is found in northern parts of Australia.

Other parts of the world include West Indies, Central America, Coastal regions of Venezuela and Colombia, Eastern Brazil, parts of east Africa and

Madagascar.

The temperatures are very high in summer months varying from 26°C to 35°C. The amount of rainfall varies from place to place. Cherrapunji, located on the southern slopes of the Khasi Hills (N.E. India) receives world's highest rainfall (yearly average of about 1125 cm).

(iii) **Savanna Type:** Found between 5° and 20° north and south of the Equator and are the transitional regions between Equatorial Forests and Tropical Hot Deserts. As these types are found in their best developed form in Sudan (Africa) they are also known as **Sudan Type Regions**. The area covered includes: In South America the Brazilian Highlands, Paraguay, northern parts of Argentina, Maracaibo Basin of Venezuela and Northern Colombia. In Africa Sudan, Senegal, Mali, Niger, Chad, Ghana, Parts of Ivory Coast, Nigeria, northern and eastern parts of Angola, Namibia, Kenya and parts of Ethiopia. In Australia the region spreads from west to east, north of Tropic of Capricorn.

(iv) **Hot Desert Regions:** Found mainly on the western part of landmasses between latitudes 15° and 30°, both north and south of the Equator. The Hot Deserts lie in these latitudes because this area is dominated by the Sub-Tropical High Pressure Belts, where the settling dry air is not favourable for rainfall. The trade winds over land generally blow towards the warmer regions and are thus dry. Those blowing from the Ocean deposit their moisture (rain) on the eastern side of the continents with the result the Western margins and interior areas remain dry. Area covered includes: In Africa the Sahara Desert, which lies on the northern part of continent and stretches 5500 km from east to west and 1900 km from north to south and the Kalahari Desert which includes south-west Angola, south-west Africa and north-western parts of south Africa. In Asia whole of Arabian Peninsula (leaving areas of Yemen and Oman), Southern Israel, Jordan, northern part of Iran and Iraq and Thar Desert of India and Pakistan. In N. America Lower California, the Arizona and the Mexican Deserts. In S. America Atacama, which stretches in a narrow belt on the west of Andes mountain range. In Australia the Central and Western parts.

(B) Warm Temperate Climates

(i) **Mediterranean regions:** or

Dry Summer Sub-Tropical regions are found on the Western margins of the continents usually between 30° and 40° north and south of Equator. These type are located in the Land around the Mediterranean Sea which includes Portugal, Spain, Southern France, Italy, Greece, Syria, Israel, Lebanon, Western Turkey and the North African countries of Algeria, Tunisia, Libya and Morocco. South Africa includes region around Cape Town in S. Africa. In N. America restricted to the State of California. In S. America central part of Chile. In Australia South-West fringe around city of Perth and area around Adelaide.

(C) Cool Temperate Regions

(i) **Temperate Grassland Regions:** Found between 40° and 55° north and south of the Equator. These are interior grassland regions and are known by different names in different regions. In north America they are known as **Prairies**; in South America as **Pampas**; in South Africa as **Veld**; in Hungary as **Pastaz**; in Eurasia as **Steppes** and in Australia as **Downs**. The largest area of this region is found in the heart of Eurasia. It extends from the Black Sea and the Caspian Sea to the Loess Highland of north-west China, including the Plain of Manchuria.

(ii) **Taiga Regions:** Located between 55° and 70° in the northern Hemisphere only. These regions stretch between the Tundra region in the north and the Prairie regions in the south in a great continuous belt across North America, Europe and Asia. In Eurasia they extend the Scandinavian Highlands across Sweden, Finland, Poland, North Hungary, North Russia, Northern Siberia and the Kamchatka Peninsula, terminating on the Pacific Ocean. In N. America it stretches from South Alaska across Southern Canada to Labrador.

(D) Cold Climates

The Tundra Regions or Cold Deserts: Located mainly poleward of 65°N. These regions are found north of the Coniferous forests and include the coastal strip of Greenland, the northern parts of Canada and Alaska and the Arctic sea-board of Eurasia, covering Iceland, northern Scandinavia and northern Siberia.

JUNE '90 ISSUE HIGHLIGHTS
General Information
Current Affairs

Argumentative Questions on Social and Economic Problems

In our last issue we published complete answers to the first four questions set in Paper II—"Economic and Social Problems" for the Reserve Bank of India Officers Grade-I examination, 1989-90. The answers to the remaining questions of that paper are being published below:

EDUCATION POLICY

Q. 5. What are the main features of the New Education Policy? Do you think it will make education relevant to our social needs? Give reasons to support your answer.

Ans. The Union Government's reoriented education policy aims at spreading and streamlining education, improving its quality and changing the system so as to ensure that it does not merely create "a few islands and pockets of education". Full stress is to be laid on vocationalisation of education, improvement of the primary schools (now in a sorry plight) and sharply reducing the drop-out rate. Much larger financial allocations are proposed for education to make up leeway.

It was hoped that the changes would help remove the in-built inequalities of the old, outdated system so as to produce men of real education, enlightenment and character. Old Indian values would be encouraged and avenues of quality education opened to the masses. Model schools (Navodaya Vidyalayas) were to be opened ultimately in every district. Bureaucratisation of education is to be decreased as far as possible and greater autonomy to educational institutions encouraged.

The policy laid down a target of 10 per cent diversification of students at the higher secondary stage to the vocational stream by 1990. The programme of action envisaged formulation of vocational programmes for various target groups, strengthening of the infrastructure at various levels, apprenticeship training for stu-

dents of vocational courses, revision of recruitment policy and monitoring of the programme.

To ensure that the educational schemes do not remain merely on paper, nine Central Advisory Boards (Education Committees) were set up to watch the progress of various sectors of education, such as elementary education, content and process of education, housing facility for women teachers, common school system and development of languages.

Non-formal education has been given high priority to enable the Government to achieve its target of universalisation of elementary education and retention of drop-outs. The special facilities for non-formal education have been extended.

Relevance to People's Needs: The new policy was well designed and its aims were laudable. The formulations and various items were prepared with the nation's needs in view. If these had been implemented fully, it would have removed several snags in the existing policy. For instance, systematic vocationalisation would have reduced unemployment among youth. Theoretical education has not helped young people in getting gainful employment. But since the State governments have failed to provide the matching grants for implementing the policy, many vital items of the programme remain unimplemented. For instance, the vocationalisation of education is in jeopardy. Vocationalisation, together with the introduction of more technology and the latest scientific devices, holds out new hopes for solving many of the country's urgent economic problems.

CASTE—BANE OF SOCIETY

Q. 6. "The institution of caste has been the bane of Indian society." Comment, giving suggestions for the creation of a more integrated society.

Ans. The caste system has existed

in India for several centuries, crippling the social structure, inhibiting progress and creating disunity at many levels. This system implies distinctions between one group and another on a totally unwarranted, undemocratic and indefensible basis. It has rightly been regarded as an evil and a bane of Indian society because it not only has the seeds of decay in it but also because it tends to perpetuate injustices and inequalities. No equitable social and economic system can be established as long as the caste factor dominates the country's social structure.

In recent decades, many of the rigidities of the caste system have tended to get softened, or even to disappear, as a result of education, enlightenment and the refreshing winds of equality and justice between man and man. But even now caste prejudices and caste interests dominate certain aspects of life at various levels. The intensity of caste prejudices varies from region to region. In the orthodox South, for instance, religion and caste are accorded much greater importance than in the liberal North. Moreover, there is greater tolerance of caste and other differences in some regions than in others. Unfortunately, there are caste-based "vote banks" even now. As long as people continue to think on sectarian lines, the caste factor will continue to gain strength. There is admittedly a dearth of public men having broad vision. National unity cannot be effectively promoted when the caste menace is very much in existence.

A more integrated society is certainly needed in this country. The greater the degree of unity and integration, the fewer would be the cases of social discord and disharmony. For limited political gains, and as a result of other preoccupations, party leaders seldom work with earnestness for elimination of the pernicious caste system. The nation's progress depends very much on the elimination of such evils. An all-out,

sustained campaign is urgently needed to end the caste injustices, promote the concept of equality. More education will also help in this regard.

LIBERALISATION POLICY

Q. 7. Discuss the liberalisation policy of the Government in recent years and its likely consequences on the Indian economy.

Ans. Realising that the system of too many controls and permits has hindered industrial progress, promoted corruption and also done much harm to the economy, the Government of India has in recent years been pursuing a policy of liberalisation. The crippling restrictions on growth and expansion of industry, on diversification to meet consumer demand, and on imports even for building up export-oriented industrial enterprises, have been relaxed almost from year to year. As a result, the entire industrial scene in the country, the total quantum of imports, etc., has been transformed almost beyond recognition.

In 1984-85 the Central Government announced several steps to liberalise industrial policy and investment, and streamline procedures. Within the overall framework of the Industrial Policy Resolution of 1956, a growth-oriented approach continued to be the basic thrust of the Government's industrial policy. These measures were aimed at removal of constraints on production, enhancing the capacity utilisation and raising productivity.

Under the new liberal industrial policy, the first step towards decentralisation of planning was to free non-MRTP and non-FERA companies from the obligation to obtain licences. This has benefited about 30 industries.

At least 100 growth centres were to be set up, one in each district; the entire country will be covered by 2008 A.D. These centres will be provided infra-structure facilities of banking, water, power and telecommunications. Each centre will be allocated funds of the order of Rs 25-30 crore over a five-year period. Fiscal and financial incentives will be offered to new industrial units and to those located in the backward districts.

In spite of the concessions, reliefs and incentives, most of the big business houses have shown disinclination to shift or set up industries in 'no-industry' districts. The innovation of

growth centres is hailed as a welcome measure for industrial diversification.

The consequences of the liberalisation policy, broadly, have been: (a) enhancement of production and of productivity; (b) better utilisation of domestic resources and of installed capacity, and (c) less corruption and less bureaucratic control over industry.

The 1990-91 Union Budget, presented by Finance Minister Madhu Dandavate, on March 19, indicated the Government's intention to review the industrial policy so as to further increase production which holds the key to progress. The Finance Minister pointed out that the import bill of the bulk items has been increasing rapidly and there has been a huge outflow of foreign exchange, mostly on account of the rising oil consumption. India's foreign debt has doubled in the last five years. He urged that the people should make sacrifices and meet the challenge to preserve the economic independence and spirit of self-reliance. The trend of higher imports will have to be reversed. The Government is ready to go through a period of austerity and hardship in order to avoid excessive foreign borrowings. The people's cooperation is of course vital in this regard.

FOREIGN FINANCE

Q. 8. "Foreign finance as a means of bridging the gap between domestic investment and savings is no substitute for mobilisation of internal effort and resources." Discuss with reference to India.

Ans. While foreign investments, without chains and strings, is always welcome for expediting economic, especially industrial development, there is no doubt that it cannot serve as a good substitute for mobilisation of indigenous resources. Foreign capital naturally involves payment of high rates of interest and the burden of repayments, spread over short or long periods depending upon the terms of the loan or direct capital investment, is heavy.

The developing countries have been badly hit by the decreasing global liquidity, hardening conditionality of the international financial institutions, coupled with the depressed prices of their commodities for export. The gap between actual mobilised indigenous resources and

the amount of capital required for investment is very large, but because of the direct and indirect burdens implicit in foreign loans, internal effort in this direction is always advisable. Of course resort to foreign capital appears easy; almost any amount can be borrowed for development projects. But we have to bear in mind the mounting burden of external debt.

In view of the burden, Prime Minister V.P. Singh warned on March 23, 1990, that the Government would necessarily have to resort to stern measures to ensure that the country does not fall into economic slavery and an external debt trap, and thus surrender its economic independence.

A major problem before the country is the strain on our balance of payments position. In the last few years, large trade and current account deficits have been financed through depletion of foreign exchange reserves and growing recourse to foreign borrowings. To counter the pressures on the balance of payments and to ensure a viable situation over the Eighth Plan period, exports should command the highest priority.

The new Import-Export policy 1990-93, accords top priority to exports and is designed to give special encouragement to exports which earn high net foreign exchange. The priority for exports is also reflected in our industrial policy. India's foreign debt has been doubled in the last five years. This has added to our vulnerability. The trend has to be reversed.

ENVIRONMENTAL POLLUTION

Q. 9. "Environmental degradation is inevitable in the process of economic development." Do you agree? Give reasons to support your argument.

Ans. There is no doubt that environmental degradation is a sequel to the increasing industrialisation, which is regarded as the price of economic progress. What sustains life on earth is a cover of air and water, known as the biosphere. The life-cycle of plants, animals and bacteria maintains Nature's balance of oxygen, nitrogen, carbon dioxide and water vapour. Since the bounties of nature are not inexhaustible, the ever-increasing smoke, carbon dioxide, harmful effluents from factories and life-destroying gases and waste

material in various shapes tend to upset this previous balance.

The hazards of environmental pollution because of industrial ventures have been known for decades. It needs to be recalled that the limits of environmental pollution were exceeded with the fantastic technological breakthrough achieved during and after World War II. The highly developed nations benefited most from the break-through and, inevitably, it was in the industrially advanced regions that the ill effects of environmental degradation and of environmental diseases, bred by advanced industrial technology, were first noticed.

No wonder the outcry against environmental pollution has been the loudest in the U.S.A.—one of the two most industrially advanced countries of the world. There is the recurring fall-out from nuclear testing (which is known to cause cancer) and congenital birth defects. Massive amounts of lead have been found in the U.S. environment from automotive fuel additives, leading to toxic levels of lead accumulation in human beings.

In India the widespread use of insecticides has ultimately recoiled on human beings, in various forms. The reckless destruction of forests and of wildlife have also destroyed the ecological balance. To restore and maintain this balance, several laws have been passed. Steps have been taken to check the use of certain types of fuels and inefficient equipment. Public opinion has been aroused on the issue, and now there is much greater awareness of the pollution menace than ever before. Our Five Year Plans take full care of environmental planning. The National Committee on Environmental Planning and Coordination, set up in 1972, advises the Government of India on environmental problems and suggests solutions.

The Department of Environment, Forests and Wildlife, created in 1985, deals with the policy and assessment of impact.

Now there is a full-time Minister of State for Environment, Mrs Maneka Gandhi, whose earnestness to save the environment often comes in conflict with the development projects of the Ministry of Industry. A carefully planned balance has to be struck between industrial development and the urgent requirements of environmental protection.

RESERVATIONS, INFLATION

Q. 10. Write short notes on—

(a) Reservations for Backward Classes

(b) Causes of inflation in India

(c) Perestroika and Glasnost

Ans. (a) Reservations: The Constitution of India provides for equality of rights permitted to all citizens irrespective of religion, caste, or sex, but it also provides for reservations in various fields for Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and other backward classes to enable them to come up to the level of others. The provision was for an initial period of 10 years, but as a result of the slow progress made by these classes, the concession has been frequently extended. It looks as if the reservations system will continue indefinitely. The affected classes insist on continuation of the practice, and the politicians in power have made it a policy to appease those numerically significant categories of society.

The system of reservations has in fact become a political plank even though each enhancement of the period implies denial of legitimate rights to thousands of talented young men and women. Many people regard the system as a man-made injustice. The Mandal Commission, which submitted its report in December, 1980, recommended continuation of the caste-based preferences and identified over 450 "backward classes" comprising 52 per cent of the total population.

But the figure was pegged at a lower level in view of the Supreme Court judgement that the total reservations should in no case exceed 50 per cent of the population so as not to violate Article 15(4) and 16(4) of the Constitution. The Centre has yet to take a final decision on the Mandal Report.

(b) Inflation: Inflationary trends, which have resulted in a more or less continuous increase in prices, of commodities, have persisted in the country during the past few decades. Among the causes are: (a) faulty monetary and other policies of the Central Government; (b) the hoarding and cornering of essential supplies by profiteers and black marketeers; (c) the shortages of several goods; (d) the policy of levying high excise duties, direct and indirect taxes which have

a chain reaction and a spiral effect; (e) the expansion of money supply, coupled with shortages of goods; (f) the escalating Government expenditure; almost every Central budget fuels the existing inflation; (g) the frequent increase in railway freight rates pushes up prices of almost all commodities as a result of the multiplier effect of the higher transport costs. Traders of various categories increase prices of goods on every pretext. No action is taken against the hoarders, profiteers and black marketeers, despite the several laws designed to check such malpractices.

Actually, every party in power professes a policy that will check inflation, but soon such promises are forgotten. Tall claims are made that inflation is under check, but the reality is otherwise. The high rate of inflation naturally causes much distress among the masses but they feel helpless.

The government even claims that some inflation is inevitable with the progress of the economy. It is regarded as "the price of economic progress".

(c) Perestroika and Glasnost: Mr Mikhail Gorbachov, who emerged as the most powerful Soviet leader about five years ago and is now the Executive President, introduced the concepts of Perestroika and Glasnost to ensure openness and efficient systems all round. He is keen to introduce several radical reforms in the country. Perestroika has paved the way for rapid growth of national awareness among the people and made them confident that they could independently solve their social, economic and political problems. But according to some critics, the concepts of Perestroika and Glasnost have misfired and led to entirely unexpected situations that defeat the aims Mr Gorbachov had in mind. It appears that the people's enthusiasm for Perestroika has been eroded by five years of economic failure and indecision.

Mr Gorbachov, now armed with wide powers, has entered a crucial period that will make or break his Perestroika reform programme. He has drawn up a plan for a dramatic acceleration in the pace of change, with more radical steps towards a market economy.

MODEL PARAGRAPHS

"A single day among the learned lasts longer than the longest life of the ignorant."

—Rosidonius

Civilisation is like the ascending silvery steps of a pioneer who looks up towards the sky and pats himself; culture is like the timeless treasure of golden ages, best preserved in libraries, museums, archives and above all in the minds of the learned and the souls of the lofty. To the harried and harassed; tormented and forsaken; the healing touch and caressing cheer in the company of the learned who are our never-failing friends, guides and philosophers—is the only asset that lasts long. It matters not for how long we enjoy the blissful moments and blessed mood in the company of the learned but it does signify that we have spent a few moments or hours among the learned who embody in themselves the visions and virility of all time—past, present and future. It is an irrefutable fact that when the horizons and frontiers of knowledge are ever widening, ignorance can never be a substitute of learning because learning and the learned bring light and enlightenment. Without the benign and blessed presence of the learned life would become sad, sour and sordid.

"We can destroy ourselves by cynicism and disillusion just as effectively as by bombs."

—Kenneth Clark

In our ignorance and insolence we do more harm to ourselves and our psyche than what others are capable of doing to us and vice versa. Physical destruction by bombs is a one-time mishap but slow and silent erosion of the self by cynicism and disillusionment is by far the most cruel and callous destruction that we inflict on ourselves. Criticism is positive and correc-

tive but cynicism is negative and corrosive; disappointment is sour in taste but disillusionment is sinister in design and destructive in execution. Cynicism and disillusionment are our invisible enemies whom we nurture and nourish to remain in a state of constant conflict and confrontation with the visible and viable reality always staring us in the face. Physical destruction can hope for revival and resurrection but mental and spiritual stagnation, which is the irreversible offshoot of cynicism and disillusionment, knows no reversal and redemption. A cynic is distrusted both by friends and foes alike and a disillusioned fellow invites nothing but derision and ridicule. In fact the cult of cynicism is like the writhing coils of a reptile that suck and sap the nectar of life and throw us into the blind alley the other end of which is only deadly and dreadful disillusionment.

"Silence is the mother of truth."

—Benjamin Disraeli

Crows, crooks and cranks let loose hell when they just open their mouths but saints and sages in their meditative silence give out heavenly halo around them, which in all its essence is the manifestation of truth. 'God is truth', was first conceived and revealed by the ancient Indian sages, who, by observing strictly the mantra (vow) of silence, delved deep into the mysteries of life and realised its secrets, before and after. In their quest for truth they took to silence just as a fish takes to water. There are three kinds of silence. Silence from words is good, because inordinate speaking tends to evil. Silence or rest from desires and passions is still better, because it promotes quietness of spirit. But the best of all is silence from unnecessary and wandering thoughts because that is essential to internal

recollection. And internal recollection tends to concentration and conceptual clarity in which 'we see into the life of thing'. Silence accelerates purity of vision, which in turn helps the process of dogged determination in the pursuit of truth. It also awakens the conscience to the ultimate because speech is of time, silence is of eternity.

"Melancholy is the joy of being sad."

—Victor Hugo

Tennyson's *Lotus Eaters*' invocation to 'mild-minded melancholy' and Shakespeare's melancholy personified Jaques emit more sense and wisdom than all the wise men put together. Melancholy, quite often, results in aloofness but that aloneness does not end in despair but bursts into artistic vision of the essential oneness of all mankind. It is a state of mind where one can become an oracle or a visionary who asserts the indwelling divinity that governs all men's thoughts. The beauty and essence of being sad lies not in what we perceive on the surface but in the vibrant music and veritable vitality which the melancholy heart experiences and enjoys within. When sadness overtakes us by surprise, the chords of our hearts are touched and the best in us—whether poetry, music, painting et al, comes out in its pristine form and only God knows how we become creative and cosmic in our imagination and feelings. Of course comedy is pleasing whereas tragedy is teasing; the former excites us but the latter lifts us; if the one is a gift, the other is a boon. Comic-pleasure is illusory but tragic-melancholy is like a voyage within and in Shelley's words: 'Our sweetest songs are those that tell of saddest thought.'

Recipes for Success

The distance does not matter; it is only the first step that is difficult.

P psychological and sociological research has endeavoured to identify general qualities necessary for the attainment of success in any field. These qualities constitute a kind of recipe for success for everybody everywhere. The main ingredients of the recipe are as follows:

Self-Control: This quality implies steadiness, the power to subordinate passing impulses to a rational rule. Steadiness is a key command in every career. It is also a condition of performing or working of a standard quality. When a man loses his self-control it means his steering apparatus is broken. He is in a drifting condition, at the mercy of wind or tide or of circumstances.

Enterprise: Enterprise means the disposition to make experiments on life, to try and try again, which of course implies a certain degree of aggressiveness. Enterprise means the habit of making, so to say, voyages of discovery in order to find out one's proper relations to the world and to find out where opportunities open. A man who has no enterprise, that is a man who lacks readiness to embark on a bold and difficult undertaking is hardly qualified for success.

Initiative: Another top quality for success is initiative, the capacity for starting something, the capacity for taking independent action. Many a man has more knowledge and ability than he uses. His brain appears to have no self-starter. There is no handle on him whereby he can be moved to action. Most of the folk do only what they are told to do. Without instructions they stand idle. They seldom start anything. The most important idea that ever came into Henry Ford's mind was when he thought—"Tomorrow I will start making motor cars". He who has begun has half done. Every man who ever started anything had to encounter difficulties and doubt. Often we do not know how to finish, but we learn as we go along. To start something

new always needs some courage and to persevere a bit of stamina. Always begin somewhere, you can't build up success on what you are going to do. Begin where you are. The distance does not matter; it is only the first step that is difficult. An old Chinese proverb has it, "A journey of a thousand miles begins with a single step." Get a clear picture of exactly what you want to do or to achieve in life. Believe that you can and will succeed in doing or achieving it. Start now to do it and keep at it.

Concentration: A very important ingredient in the recipe for success is concentration. It was the motto of Dale Carnegie, and one of the main causes of great success of Lord Northcliff, the great British journalist. Northcliff used to concentrate his energy on whatever he did. "If anything is worth doing at all", he would say, "it is worth doing well" and if he did not think a thing not worth taking the trouble, he would have nothing to do with it. One day he turned to an opponent golfer and asked abruptly: "Why haven't you done as well as I have?" He did not wait for a reply. "It is because you have not concentrated", he said. Do what you do with the seventh degree of concentration and in dead earnest. The great English novelist Charles Dickens writes, "Whatever I have tried to do in this life, I have tried with all my heart to do well, to whatever I have devoted, I have devoted myself completely; in great aims and in small, I have been thoroughly in earnest."

Success is not like manna falling from heaven into your lap. It won't come to you by free gift. It will come to you if you have a sense of direction; if you know whither you are going; if you choose your goal consciously and realistically and take steps towards its attainment steadily and vigorously taking obstacles in your stride. Failure is the brand on the brow of the man who has a woolly mind, out of focus; who wobbles, drifts fuzzily and who falls prey to these "deadly" enemies of

success—inertia, self-doubt, aimlessness and indecision.

There is no royal road to success. There is no single sure card for it. But it is possible to suggest certain recipes for it which bid fair to win it.

Choose a clear-cut primary goal of your life: A goal is the end result which you seek—the object of your effort or ambition. You must pin-point your goal in life. It won't do to say, "I want to be happy" or "I want to make pots of money" or "I want to be a better person." You must determine exactly what you want. You need to say, "I intend to be a microbiologist in five years" or a Probationary Officer of the State Bank of India or an I.A.S. Officer, or Civil Engineer or a Chartered Accountant, in one, two, four or five years. In other words you must have a definite goal to be attained within a defined period of time backed by a time bound action-programme. Andre Maurois has aptly said, "Napoleon held that the art of war consisted of making oneself strong at a certain point, in life we must choose a point of attack and concentrate our forces there." He who wants to do everything will never do anything. It is useless and dangerous to choose an unattainable goal. Failure can undermine self-confidence and sap energy.

Caring like blazes: It is precious little use to pin-point a goal in life unless you want it passionately. Day dreaming and wishful wishes will not ring the bell; there must be intense burning desire. Use your imagination to fan the flame of your desire and keep it white-hot. The two chief ingredients in the magic recipe of success are clarity of purpose and intensity of desire. Unless you care tremendously you won't get there. Dr Selman A. Waksman, winner of the Nobel Prize for the discovery of streptomycin (1952), says in his autobiography: "My life with the Microbes"—"But of one thing I am certain; of my life with the microbes. With them I spent my days and my nights. To them I devoted my energy

PERSONALITY DEVELOPMENT

and my thoughts. It is to them that I came in times of despondence, when I felt that the world had turned against me. It is to them that I came with my joys to share with them my glory and my accomplishment. I lived with them, I almost shared their lives and activities."

Be patient: Paul Ehrlich used to refer to his formula for success as the four Gs: "Geduld, Geshick, Geld, Gluck" (patience, ability, money, luck). However, it was Geduld (patience) and Geshick (ability) which lifted Ehrlich to the top of his profession and won him the Nobel Prize in Physiology and Medicine in 1908. If one is impressed with any common denomination as one reads the lives of these great scientists it is their possession of natural ability coupled with the infinite patience born of hundreds of previous laboratory failures. Patience is a virtue, says an old saying. It is also the art of hoping. You must be patient and do not give way to despair. "Drops of water wear down stones", says Solzhenitsyn "but it takes time." ("The First Circle".)

Don't make alibis: Making an alibi won't help you. If you can move the blame from your shoulder, it will prevent you from doing your best. Says Herbert Casson, "So we may take it as a wise rule that when a man's business is doing badly he should blame HIMSELF. An alibi will not help him."

Stop short-circuiting yourself with alibis. Don't say, "The timing is wrong", or "I am not really qualified." Don't play the "if-only" game: "If I had more money, or more education or better circumstances if only I weren't so tied down..." Such alibis only feed self-doubt, inertia and drift. Give them a wide berth. Don't be a slave of circumstances. G.B. Shaw once said, "I don't believe in circumstances. The people who get on in this world are the people who look for the circumstances they want, and if they can't find them, make them."

Be willing to accept set-backs—temporarily: People who have made it have one trait in common—persistence. They keep picking themselves up and returning to fight longer after most men have given up. They know how to accept defeat temporarily. The battle is not to the strong but to the persistent. Abraham Lincoln failed in business in 1831. He was defeated in

politics in '32. He failed once again in business in '34. He had nervous breakdown in '41. In '43 he hoped to receive his party's nomination but did not. He ran for the Senate and lost in '55. He was defeated again in '58. A hopeless loser, some said. But he was elected President in 1860. He knew how to accept failure temporarily. Failure must be seen as the need for further effort and toughening of the will.

Nothing stake nothing draw: Two younger men of equal abilities start in the world of industry. One remains stuck up in a small job all his life, while the other climbs to the top-rung of the ladder in his industry. What made the difference? Just this, the one who was stuck up refused to pay the price of success. If you set your sights high, be prepared to pay a high price. You will have to work like a demon, take chances, make sacrifices and put up with set-backs. You can't afford the luxury of laziness or delights of frequent distraction. Success is a jealous mistress demanding your whole-hearted devotion and commitment. It is not a piece of cake.

Harness the unconscious mind: Freud compared the conscious mind to a fountain playing in the sun and falling back into the great subterranean pool of the sub-conscious from which it rises. The unconscious is a great dynamo but it is also a computer that has to be properly programmed. If worrying thoughts, anxiety thoughts, failure thoughts are constantly channelled into the subconscious, nothing very great is going to be sent back. But if a clear purposeful goal is steadily held in the conscious mind the unconscious will eventually accept it and begin to supply the conscious mind with plans, ideas, insights, brain-waves, and the energies necessary for the attainment of that goal.

Believe in the power of thought to change things: "There are no such things as idle thoughts" say A.G. Glasow. "All your thinking works either for good or bad. Positive thinking can make you stronger. Negative thinking is exhausting." Centuries ago King Solomon said, "As a man thinketh in his heart, so is he." Ideas are forces. With fire and faith you can forge ahead and move mountains. You must believe in the possibility of success. If a goal has been well chosen your powers will

enable you to achieve it.

Consider life a process: Life is a process. It is dynamic, not static. So is success. At no point can an individual say sincerely that he has "arrived".

Keep examining the pattern of your life. If at any time it goes out of focus, put it back into focus. Goethe warned, "We must always be changing, always rejuvenating ourselves—else we grow mouldy." More than 2,300 years ago Plato wrote: "The unexamined life is not worth living." These words still ring true today. You must have conscious direction of your life to be not only successful but really alive.

Creative Imagination: Creative imagination is one of your most potent tools of success. A gardener is working hard at his patch. He has just created a great load of garden compost. A friend jokingly asks why he works so hard in his garden on "that old rubbish heap".

"Ah, but I'm growing next year's roses" is the reply. In his mind's eye the gardener already sees them blooming. Used constructively, imagination is a success magnet. A psychologist Dr David Seabury observes, "We know today that if you make dynamic designs in your mind of how you wish to behave, your will, like an invincible current, pours into the patterns you have created and gives you magnetic vigour for the fulfilment of your desires." "The will obeys the thought patterns or mental pictures in your mind and operate as they command." Identify yourself with success and you will magnetize success for nothing succeeds like success. Dr Donald Curtis has it thus: "We become successful when we identify ourselves with success. You will never become a success if you identify yourself with failure. The inner image always reproduces itself in our experience. Learn to control what you feel and you will control your experience." Creative imagination is no idle day-dreaming. It is the prelude to creative speech and creative action which are bound to bring you success.

Strive heart and soul to be a self-actualized person, to be a man of success. You have a right to happiness and happiness is a by-product of pursuit and realization of one's goals.

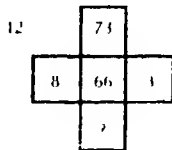
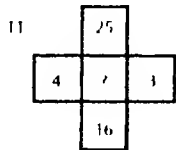
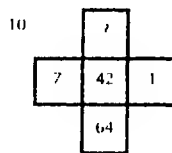
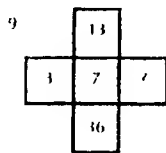
TEST OF REASONING—I

NUMBER SERIES

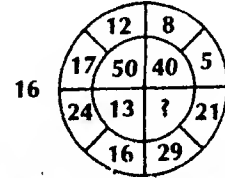
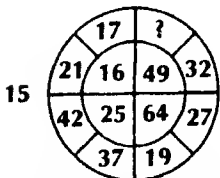
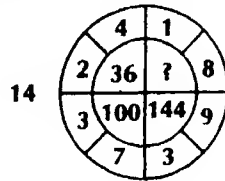
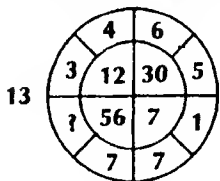
Find out the missing numbers in the series given below:

1. 29; 40; 52; 63; 75;
2. 195; 198; ...; 213; 225.
3. 2; 4; 8; 1; ...; 1; 4; 16; 64.
4. 21; 22; 26; 35; ...; 76.
5. 2; 13; 3; 25; 4; 41; 5; ...; 6.
6. 3; 27; 5; 125; 4; ...; 2; 8.
7. 181; 174; 178; ...; 175; 182.
8. 91; 84; 78; 96; 65; ...; 52.

Numbers in questions 9 to 12 are arranged according to a definite pattern. Your task is to find out the missing numbers:



Study the numbers in questions 13 to 16. Your task is to find out the missing numbers.



Find out the numbers for brackets by taking the clue from the example given:

17. 179(197)215
284(. . .)392
18. 547(240)498
384(. . .)361

LETTER SERIES

Find out the missing letters and numbers in questions given below:

19.

P	21	N	10	A	?
16	U	14	?	1	B

20.

B	2	N	?	A	1
5	E	7	?	12	L

Find the odd-man out:

21. (a) KOM (b) UYW (c) FJH (d) PTR (e) DGF
22. (a) JFB (b) TPL (c) VRM (d) LHD (e) YUQ
23. (a) TQR (b) PLM (c) DAB (d) XUV (e) HEF
24. (a) DGJ (b) LOR (c) TWZ (d) PRU (e) HKN

Which choice matches with the missing letters in the questions:

25. acb_ca_cbb_aa_b
(a) acbc
(b) bacc
(c) aacb
(d) accb
26. a_acaba_a_acaba_
(a) bcba
(b) abac
(c) babc
(d) cbcb
27. a_caab_b_bccabc_
(a) cbab
(b) cbca
(c) baba
(d) bcaa

CODING-DECODING

28. If according to a certain code 'UNCLE' is SLAJC then AUNTIE would be:

- (a) CWPVKG
- (b) YRLQGC
- (c) YSLRGC
- (d) CWPVKG

29. If DGZNPP is CEYLON then MCIQSG would be?

30. If TVPNBG stands for FAMOUS, what does ENBIT stand for?

Words in questions 31 to 36 have been written in their coded form on right. Your task is to find out the right code for letter enclosed in the box:

31. S T | Y | L E
(a) y (b) k (c) d (d) v (e) h
32. L A R [G] F
(a) q (b) c (c) y (d) p (e) k
33. G R A N [T]
(a) p (b) w (c) v (d) q (e) c

34. C R U S T

(a) h (b) j (c) d (d) v (e) p

35. B L U S H

(a) k (b) d (c) f (d) m (e) b

36. B R A I N

(a) p (b) q (c) g (d) w (e) f

According to a certain code

'Children like funny stories' means

Officers want more men.

'Many mothers look funny' means

Some men are injured.

'Fairies look like flowers' means

Injured officers needed help

'Mothers call children fairies' means

More doctors are needed.

37. What is the code for 'men'?

38. What does the word 'look' mean?

LOGICAL DIAGRAMS

Items in questions given below have been represented by circles according to the relationship among the items. The size of the circle is of no importance. Your task is to match the right parts:

39. watch : time :: dial

40. girls : school :: college

41. heart : kindness :: man

42. sheet : pillow :: quilt

43. books : library :: magazines

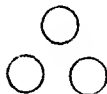
44. house : drawing room :: tables



A



B



C



D



E

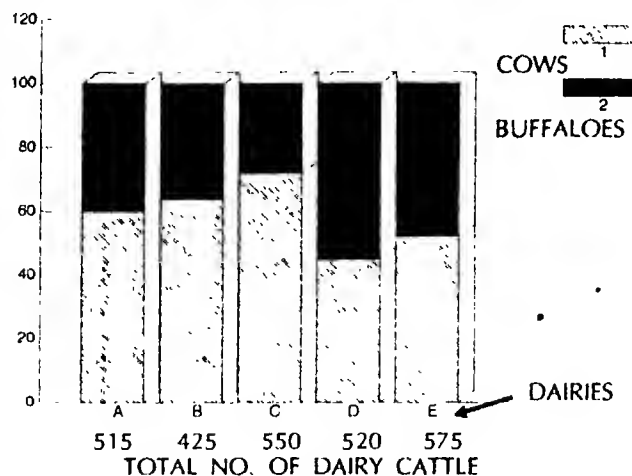


F

STATISTICS

The table given below shows the number of cows and buffaloes in dairies A, B, C, D and E. Study the chart

and answer the questions that follow.



45. The total number of cows in the five dairies is how much more than the number of buffaloes?

- (a) 545
- (b) 435
- (c) 425
- (d) 475

46. What is the average number of buffaloes per dairy?

- (a) 215
- (b) 235
- (c) 245
- (d) 225

47. How many more/less buffaloes does dairy C have in comparison to B?

- (a) 12 more
- (b) 3 less
- (c) 7 less
- (d) 1 more

48. Number of cows in D is approximately what per cent of the total number of cows in the dairies?

- (a) 17.2%
- (b) 16.9%
- (c) 18.7%
- (d) 15.5%

49. What per cent of the total number of dairy-cattle are buffaloes?

- (a) 41.6%
- (b) 42.8%
- (c) 42.3%
- (d) 42.5%

50. Animals in B are how much below the average number?

- (a) 75
- (b) 87
- (c) 92
- (d) 101

ANSWERS AND EXPLANATIONS

1. 86. Numbers have a difference of 11 and 12 respectively.

2. 204. Go on adding 3; 6; 9; 12... to numbers.
3. 1. Numbers are in sets of three. Second and third numbers are squares and cubes of the first number.
4. 51. Go on adding 1^2 ; 2^2 ; 3^2 ... to numbers to get the next one.
5. 61. Numbers are in sets of three. The number in the middle is the total of square of the numbers on its right and left.
6. 64. Each alternate number is the cube of its preceding number.
7. 178. There are two series, one with a difference of three and the other with a difference of 4.
8. 108. Again there are two series, one is the table of 13 and the other the table of 12.
9. 2. Example $3^2 + 2^2 = 13$; $(13 - 7)^2 = 36$.
10. 50
11. 21
12. 49
13. 8. Multiply the numbers in the outer quarter to get the number in the inner quarter.
14. 81. Number in the inner quarter is the square of the total of the numbers in the outer quarter.
15. 25. Study the symmetry. The inner number is the square of the difference of outer numbers.
16. 29. Add the numbers in the opposite outer quarter to get the number in the inner quarter.
17. 338. Add the numbers and divide by two.
18. 529. The number is the square of difference of numbers on right and left.
19. 2 and J. The word is PUNJAB and letters in the upper and lower line match with numbers.
20. 14 and G. The word is BENGAL. The corresponding numbers are to the right in the upper line and towards left in the lower one.
21. (e)
22. (c)
23. (b)
24. (d)
25. (b) The series is acb; bca; acb; bca ...
26. (a) The series is abac; abac; abac ...
27. (d) The series is abca; abcb; abcc; abca ...
28. (c)
29. LAHORE
30. SHAME. Reverse the letters in the word and use the next letters for code.
31. to 36. Sort out common letters in words and match them with letters in codes.
31. (e)
32. (b)
33. (c)
34. (b)
35. (d)
36. (a)
37. funny
38. injured
39. D. Watch has dial. Time is a different item.
40. A. Girls are common in both.
41. E. Kindness is in heart and heart is in man.
42. C. All are independent items.
43. F. Library has both the items.
44. B. House has drawing room and some tables in the house are in drawing room.
45. (b)
46. (a)
47. (d)
48. (d)
49. (a)
50. (c)

TEST OF REASONING

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TEST OF REASONING—II

ODD-MAN

Find the odd-man out:

- | | |
|-------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. (a) ring | (b) bangle |
| (c) tyre | (d) plate |
| (e) nut | |
| 2. (a) nails | (b) hair |
| (c) grass | (d) fingers |
| (e) bush | |
| 3. (a) spoon | (b) tongs |
| (c) chopsticks | (d) fork |
| (e) hand | |
| 4. (a) start | (b) finish |
| (c) over | (d) complete |
| (e) end | |
| 5. (a) belt | (b) bow |
| (c) socks | (d) tie |
| (e) scarf | |
| 6. (a) axe | (b) spade |
| (c) club | (d) heart |
| (e) shovel | |
| 7. (a) swim | (b) run |
| (c) anticipate | (d) acrobat |
| (e) dance | |
| 8. (a) short hand | (b) morse |
| (c) semaphore | (d) codes |
| (e) record | |

ANALOGIES

Tick-mark (✓) the choice that has a similar relationship between words as given in question:

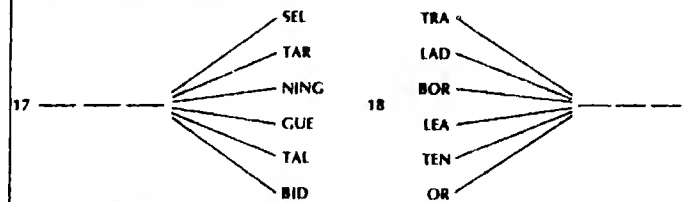
- interview : selection
(a) service : retirement
(b) ~~job~~ : institution
(c) taste : approval
(d) rest : exertion
- Pasha : Turkish
(a) Sire : English
(b) Donna : French
(c) Lord : land
(d) Badshah : Muslim
- portico : building
(a) stove : kitchen
(b) fort : fortress
(c) ~~ship~~ : steamer
(d) wheel : bicycle
- punishment : mischief
(a) scholarship : poor
(b) ~~honour~~ : chief-guest
(c) medal : bravery
(d) throne : prince
- jackal : dog
(a) crow : bat
(b) ~~orange~~ : lemon
(c) tiger : wolf

(d) ant : antelope

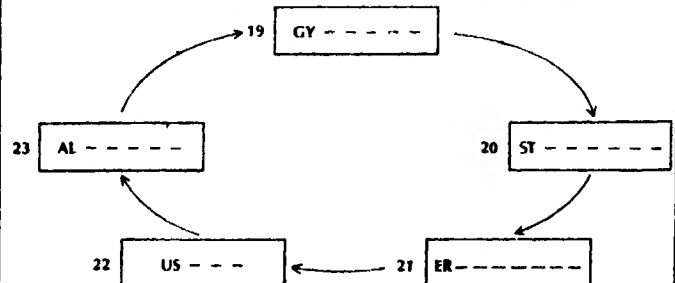
- money : buy
(a) ~~barrier~~ : stop
(b) dance : music
(c) race : sport
(d) health : disease
- fill : empty
(a) ~~match~~ : contrast
(b) run : fall
(c) read : write
(d) sleep : dream
- pond : lake
(a) book : register
(b) ~~cat~~ : elephant
(c) vendor : merchant
(d) lady : woman

LEXICAL ITEMS

Find out the set of three letters which, if added to the following would form words.



Given below is a cycle of words, each word starting with the last two letters of the preceding word. Find out words for the boxes with the help of the clues given:



- Person who performs some special exercises.
- An unknown person.
- Incorrect.
- Such as commonly happens.
- Unusual unsuitable sensitivity.

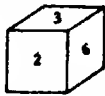
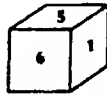
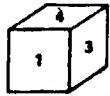
LOGICAL DEDUCTIONS

24. Ram Prasad is seven times older than his son, after 10 years his age would be three times of his son's age. How old is he?

- (a) 28 (b) 35 (c) 42 (d) 49

25. The ratio between the ages of Uma and Mahesh is 5 : 6 and she is four years younger than him. What is Uma's age?

26. Three faces of the same dice are given below. Your task is to find out which number is opposite '6'.



Letters A, B, C, D, E, F and G have been arranged in a line according to the following order:

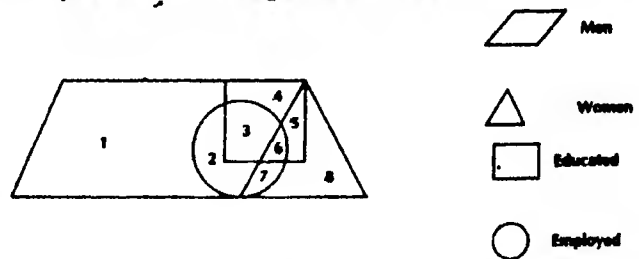
- A is on the right of E.
 - G is between D and C.
 - B and C have two letters between them.
 - D is on the left of F.
 - F and A have three letters between them.
 - E has only one letter on left.
27. Which letter is exactly in the middle?
 (a) A (b) E
 (c) C (d) G
28. Which letter is on the extreme right?
 (a) B (b) C
 (c) E (d) F
29. Which letter is on the extreme left?
 (a) B (b) C
 (c) F (d) D

Prabhat was married on 10th Dec 1955, his friend Robert was married on 2nd March 1956 and their third friend Amarjeet Singh got married on 3rd April 1956. If 10th Dec '55 was Saturday:

30. On which day of the week was Amarjeet Singh married?
 (a) Tuesday
 (b) Friday
 (c) Monday
 (d) Wednesday
31. On which day of the week was Robert married?
 (a) Monday
 (b) Tuesday
 (c) Thursday
 (d) Friday

Study the figure given below. It shows how many men

and women in a certain area are educated and employed. Each part of the figure is numbered. Your task is to answer the questions that are given at the end.



32. Which number depicts educated unemployed men?
 (a) 2 (b) 1 (c) 4 (d) 3
33. What does number 5 depict?
 (a) Educated unemployed women.
 (b) Uneducated unemployed women.
 (c) Uneducated employed women.
 (d) Educated employed women.
34. What does number 8 depict?
 (a) Educated employed women.
 (b) Educated unemployed women.
 (c) Uneducated employed women.
 (d) Uneducated unemployed women.
35. Uneducated employed men are depicted by number:
 (a) 4 (b) 3 (c) 2 (d) 1

Five cities A, B, C, D and E are famous for their lovely gardens, fancy jewellery, educational institutions, blue pottery and scents but not in the same order. Match the right parts on the basis of the statements given below:

A and C are neither educational centres nor have gardens.

B and E are not famous for jewellery or pottery.

Scents and jewellery have nothing to do with A.

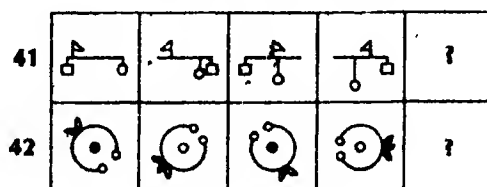
D and E are not famous for gardens or jewellery.

36. A (a) jewellery
 37. B (b) scents
 38. C (c) educational centre
 39. D (d) blue pottery
 40. E (e) gardens

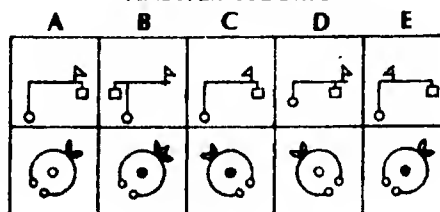
NON-VERBAL SERIES

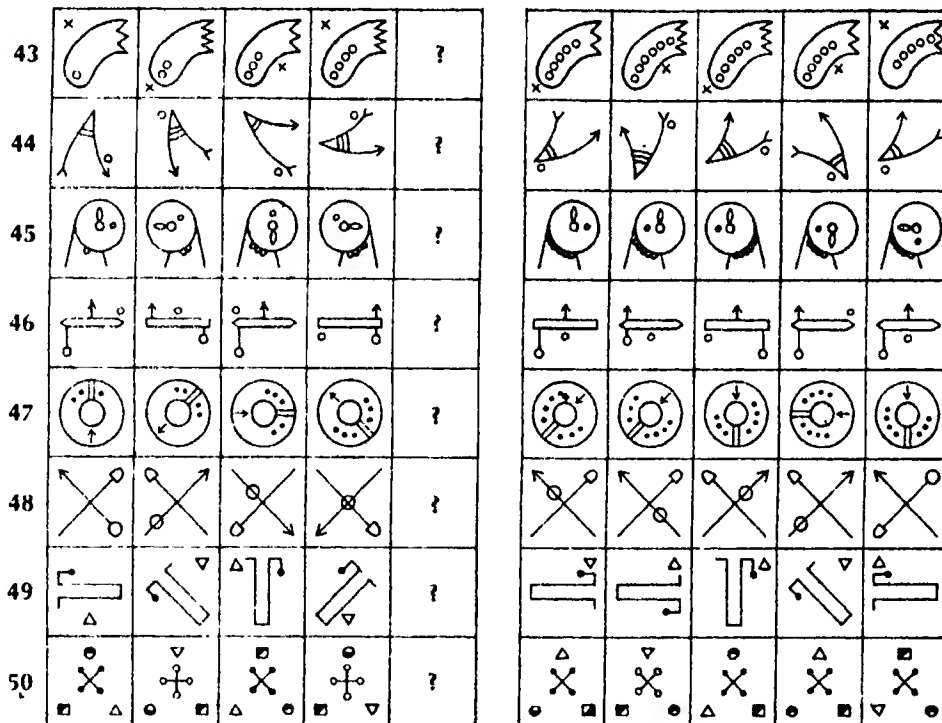
Given below are two sets of figures, the Problem Figures and the Answer Figures marked A, B, C, D and E. Your task is to find out which of the answer figures would fit in place of the question mark.

PROBLEM FIGURES



ANSWER FIGURES





ANSWERS AND EXPLANATIONS

1. (d) All the others have hole in the centre
2. (d) All the others grow again if they are cut.
3. (b) All the others are instrumental in making food reach from plate to mouth
4. (a) It is the opposite of all the others.
5. (c) All the others are tied around some part.
6. (d) All the others are tools.
7. (d) All the others are verbs
8. (e) All the others are different techniques for sending message.
9. (c) The relationship is that of action and its outcome.
10. (a) The relationship is that of the title of honour for respected citizens in language concerned.
11. (d) One is the portion of the other.
12. (c) One is given as a consequence for the other.
13. (b) Both belong to the same category.
14. (a) The relationship shows the item and its function.
15. (a) The words are antonyms.
16. (c) The relationship is that of a small item and a big item of the same type.

17. MOR 18. DER
19. GYMNAST 20. STRANGER

21. ERRONEOUS
22. USUAL
23. ALLERGY

24. (b) 25. 20 26. 4 27. (c)
28. (d) 29. (a) 30. (a) 31. (d)
32. (c) 33. (a) 34. (d) 35. (c)
36. (d) 37. (e) 38. (b) 39. (a)
40. (c)

41. B. Flag shifts towards right changing direction, pendulum becomes longer and shifts towards left and the hanging square goes from right end to left end and vice-versa.
42. E. All figures are repeated alternately and the whole thing rotates anti-clockwise at a regular pace.
43. A. Cross moves along three points anti-clockwise, ends change alternately and one hole is added.
44. E. The figure rotates anti-clockwise, arrow-heads and lines inside change alternately. Small circle moves along three points.
45. B. Figure changes direction, one design is added to neck-line, dot and petal-like figure move round anti-clockwise but at a different pace.
46. E. Pendulum gets longer and smaller and moves from end to end, arrow also moves from one end to the other but pauses in the middle, edges change alternately and circle goes around.
47. C. The wheel rotates at a regular pace, one dot is added right and left by turns and arrow changes direction.
48. A. Arrow and shovel interchange places, circle moves along the arrow from one head to the other.
49. B. The figure rotates clockwise and edges change alternately. The triangle moves along three points turning upside down.
50. D. The three figures interchange places anti-clockwise, triangle and circle turn upside down and the central figure is repeated alternately.

TEST OF REASONING—III

SYLLOGISM

TYPE-I

In the following statements, a situation has been explained in a few sentences followed by a conclusion. You have to say whether the conclusion:

- (a) necessarily follows from the statements.
- (b) is only a long drawn one.
- (c) definitely does not follow from the statements.
- (d) is doubtful as the data provided is inadequate.

Note! Your answers should only be in the light of the statements given.

Statements:

- (1) 1. As soon as any disturbance is suspected all shops in the markets are closed.
- 2. All the shops in a certain market remained closed today.

Conclusion: There was some disturbance.

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐

Statements:

- (2) 1. Winners are honoured with gold, silver and bronze medals.
- 2. Pretty beautifully attired girls known as maids of honour hold these medals in trays.

Conclusion: These girls, who belong to very respectable and much honoured family, themselves buy the medals for the winners.

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐

Statements:

- (3) 1. Cold-waves claim lives of many homeless beggars.
- 2. According to a certain report, twenty beggars who lived on footpaths died this winter in a city.

Conclusion: Most of them were victims of the cold-wave.

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐

Statements:

- (4) 1. Diplomats from other countries are invited to discuss bilateral issues.
- 2. India is having some differences with country X.
- 3. She has invited diplomats from that country.

Conclusion: The representatives of the two countries will hold a discussion regarding this particular issue.

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐

Statements:

- (5) 1. If people following different religions have tolerance, restraint and flexibility, there would be no communal clashes.
- 2. There have been fresh communal clashes in area X.

Conclusion: People there lack the qualities mentioned.

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐

Statements:

- (6) 1. The new government has been constantly probing into the Bofors issue.
- 2. Bofors' attitude is that of nondisclosure.

Conclusion: The truth will become known ultimately.

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐

Statements:

- (7) 1. Excitements are often fatal to heart patients.
- 2. Mr Rajgopalan, a heart patient, won first prize in lottery.

Conclusion: He will have a heart stroke.

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐

Statements:

- (8) 1. Clashes among groups of students often result in casualties.
- 2. Universities are closed after such incidents.
- 3. University X has been closed for an indefinite period.

Conclusion: There was a clash among students.

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐

Statements:

- (9) 1. Most of the Public Schools have started courses in computer science.
- 2. Keshav, a school student has been attending the computer course.

Conclusion: He is studying at a Public School.

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐

Statements:

- (10) 1. The government makes constant appeal to public to minimize the use of water and electricity.
- 2. The statistics show that there isn't the least difference in consumption.

Conclusion: People in general do not care to listen to such appeals.

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐

TYPE II

In making decisions about important questions, it is desirable to be able to distinguish between strong arguments and weak arguments so far as they are concerned with the question. 'Weak' arguments may not be directly related to the question, may be of minor importance or may be related to some trivial aspect of the question. Each question given below is followed by two arguments numbered I and II. You have to decide which of the arguments is 'strong' and which is 'weak'. Then decide which of the answers given below and numbered (a), (b), (c), (d) and (e) is the correct answer.

- (a) Only I is strong.

- (b) Only II is strong.
 (c) Both I and II are strong.
 (d) Either I or II is strong.
 (e) Neither I nor II is strong.

11. Are new domestic electric devices making the housewives lethargic?

- I. Yes, household works do not provide natural exercise as they used to do.
 II. No, they save time so that a variety of things can be done.

(a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

12. Is the job of journalists dangerous?

- I. Yes, they sometimes come in contact with dangerous people who try to stop them from revealing the truth.
 II. No, they go from place to place and have fun at the expense of the press.

(a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

13. Can we hope for a better year?

- I. Yes, the new government will solve the problems that have been sore spots for us.
 II. No, the elected members will be only concerned with their own selfish interests.

(a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

14. Are long power cuts justified?

- I. Yes, the emergency staff at the power station needs some rest.
 II. No, they cause inconvenience to public.

(a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

15. Is the new government going to do something special for the youth?

- I. Yes, because they are in the House due to youth voters.
 II. No, some other major problems have more gravity and need immediate attention.

(a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

TYPE III

In the following questions, assertion 'A' is followed by Reasons RI and RII. Tick mark (✓) your answers:

- (a) if only RI is the reason for A.
 (b) if only RII is the reason for A.
 (c) if both RI and RII are the reasons for A.
 (d) if either RI or RII is the reason for A.
 (e) if neither RI nor RII is the reason for A.

16. A. Sunil Gavaskar retired from the cricket world because:

- RI. he wanted to be remembered as person on peak.
 RII. he was fed up with the policies of the Cricket Board.

(a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

17. A. Hotels celebrate the New Year Eve with extravaganza because:

- RI. the programme attracts customers.
 RII. the exciting celebrations provide publicity to the hotels.

(a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

18. A. Transfers and postings of officers are a part of newspaper column because:

- RI. departmental orders take too long to reach them.

RII. officers like to see their names in the news columns.

(a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

19. A. In case of accidents, the party responsible for the mishap often settles the case by paying money for the damage caused because:

- RI. money is the best media to settle problems.
 RII. it is the moral duty of the party to help the sufferer and saves the trouble of going to police stations and courts.

(a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

20. A. Youngmen settled abroad come to India to get married, because:

- RI. foreign beauties do not attract them.
 RII. they want traditional Indian wives.

(a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

TYPE IV

In questions given below, statements 1 and 2 are followed by conclusions I and II. Taking the statements to be true although they may seem at variance with commonly accepted facts, mark your answers as under:

- (a) Only I follows.
 (b) Only II follows.
 (c) Both I and II follow.
 (d) Either I or II follows.
 (e) Neither I nor II follows.

Statements:

21. 1. All radio-sets are bicycles.
 2. Some bicycles are carts.

Conclusions:

- I. Some radio-sets are carts.
 II. None of the carts is a radio-set.

(a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

Statements:

22. 1. Some Italians are Americans.
 2. Some Americans are French.

Conclusions:

- I. Some Italians are French.
 II. Some Americans are not French.

(a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

Statements:

23. 1. Some children are drums.
 2. All drums are flutes.

Conclusions:

- I. Some children are flutes.
 II. Some flutes are not drums.

(a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

Statements:

24. 1. All pencils are rubbers.
 2. All rubbers are books.

Conclusions:

- I. All books are pencils.
 II. Some pencils are not rubbers.

(a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

Statements:

25. 1. Some dogs bark.
 2. Barking dogs do not bite.

Conclusions:

- I. All the dogs that do not bark bite.
 - II. All the dogs that do not bite bark.
- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

Statements:

26. 1. All the girls, who have not crossed twenty are not allowed to wear yellow.
2. Sheela is wearing yellow dress.

Conclusions:

- I. Sheela has crossed twenty.
 - II. She is under twenty.
- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

Statements:

27. 1. Only those retired officers go to clubs whose wives are not interested in music.
2. Mrs Ghosh, a retired officer's wife, is not interested in music.

Conclusions:

- I. Mr Ghosh goes to club.
 - II. He does not go to club.
- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

Statements:

28. 1. All cats that do not drink milk like cakes.
2. None of the cats that does not like cakes is lazy.

Conclusions:

- I. Cats that do not drink milk are lazy.
 - II. Cats that drink milk are not lazy.
- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

Statements:

29. 1. Some democracies had to shed a lot of blood for changing the rule.
2. Tomania is a new democracy.

Conclusions:

- I. It was after much bloodshed that Tomanian Democracy was able to throw away the old rule.
 - II. The struggle did not involve any bloodshed.
- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

Statements:

30. 1. A long cold war between husband and wife often leads to divorce.
2. Mr and Mrs Ahuja are not on speaking terms for months.

Conclusions:

- I. They would ultimately seek divorce.
 - II. They would continue to live together with their differences as well as understandings.
- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

TYPE V

In the questions given below, a statement is followed by implications I and II. Mark your answers:

- (a) if only I is implicit.
- (b) if only II is implicit.
- (c) if both I and II are implicit.
- (d) if either I or II is implicit.
- (e) if neither I nor II is implicit.

Statement:

31. The management of the Indian Express was forced to declare a lock out because of the imminent danger to personnel and property and threats held out by influential people.

Implications:

- I. It had published revealing facts about some influential people which they had been hiding from public.
 - II. The management did not want to take any risks.
- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

Statement:

32. All the army officials in country X, who belonged to party Y were dismissed.

Implications:

- I. The govt of X had differences with Y.
 - II. Party Y was stronger than the party forming govt.
- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

Statement:

33. The Hindi cinema returns to lovelorn themes of teenagers again and again and makes a big success of it.

Implications:

- I. All the spectators are teenagers at heart and love fresh young couples.
 - II. Such stories are a pleasant change from sex, violence, blood and domestic dramas.
- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

Statement:

34. Most of the classical dance themes are based on stories of gods and awtaras.

Implications:

- I. Classical arts maintain their heritage by sticking to traditions.
 - II. New themes are not interesting.
- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

Statement:

35. Persons involved in social service are mainly concerned with the plight of women.

Implications:

- I. Men as such have no problems hence need no consideration.
 - II. Women are unable to do anything for themselves.
- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

Statement:

36. The Anti-Reservation Movement was taken up by all the States.

Implications:

- I. If one State starts a movement, it is customary for the other States to follow it.
 - II. A major portion of the youth and employees all over the country were not in favour of Reservation.
- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

Statement:

37. Patrolling in bordering districts of State X and Y

has been intensified.

Implications:

- I. Some criminals must be trying to escape from one State into another.
- II. Some anti-social elements must be busy with their underground activities trying to disturb peace in these States.

(a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

Statements:

38. At so many places in India, temples and mosques stand side by side.

Implications:

- I. The contrast in architecture attracts tourists.
- II. The followers of the two religions respect each other's religions and sentiments.

(a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

Statement:

39. Some countries have adopted capital punishment for persons involved in supply of prohibited drugs.

Implications:

- I. The crime is no less than murder.
- II. These countries are unfair to traders.

(a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

Statement:

40. Most of the persons holding high posts in the ministry are exiled Congressmen.

Implications:

- I. As they have been traitors to one party, they may do so again with this party.
- II. In heart to heart, they are still faithful to Congress.

(a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

TYPE VI

At the end of the passage given below some conclusions have been drawn. On the basis of the study of the paragraph, mark your answers as under:

- A. Definitely true.
- B. Probably true.
- C. Can't say as the data provided is inadequate.
- D. Probably false.
- E. Definitely false.

The Chinese authorities, fearing unrest there in the wake of dramatic changes in eastern Europe have decided to boost urban incomes in an attempt to appease an increasing discontented work force are ordering work units to give year-end bonuses that in some cases will be larger than have been given in the past and to give increased benefits to unemployed workers. The leaders, fearing that the popular movements that forced out Communist regimes in eastern Europe could spark a revival of last spring's student-led democracy movement, placed security forces on alert and reinforced the plainclothes police forces stationed on university campuses.

41. A great majority in China wants democracy.

A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐

42. There is no financial help from the government to the unemployed.

A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐

43. The authorities suspect an impact of European movement on China.

A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐

44. They are determined to crush the movement.

A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐

45. The workers will not join the agitation if given extra money.

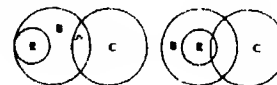
A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐

ANSWERS AND EXPLANATIONS

1. (c) There could be some other reason.
2. (c) The conclusion has no relation with the statements.
3. (b) The conclusion is based on assumption, hence long drawn.
4. (a) The conclusion positively follows from the statements.
5. (a) The conclusion confirms the statements.
6. (d) No one can be sure.
7. (d) The word 'often' makes the conclusion doubtful.
8. (b) The conclusion is based on one aspect only, hence longdrawn.
9. (b) Since nothing has been stated about other institutions, the conclusion is a long drawn one.
10. (a) The conclusion necessarily follows.
11. (c) 12. (a) 13. (d) 14. (e)
15. (d) 16. (a) 17. (c) 18. (e)
19. (b) 20. (b)

Questions 21 to 25 are best solved by drawing diagrams of all probable situations:

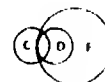
21. (d) There are two possibilities hence either of the two.



22. (b) The probabilities are given below so only II is confirmed.



23. (c) Both the conclusions are right.



24. (e) The diagram makes it very clear.



25. (e) Neither of the conclusion is confirmed as the figure shows. It has not been stated that dogs that do not bark necessarily bite.



- | | | | |
|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| 26. (a) | 27. (a) | 28. (b) | 29. (d) |
| 30. (d) | 31. (c) | 32. (a) | 33. (c) |
| 34. (a) | 35. (e) | 36. (b) | 37. (d) |
| 38. (b) | 39. (a) | 40. (e) | |

41. B. The fear of the govt hints at the probability.

42. D. The mention of increased benefits shows that some kind of benefits existed previously.

43. A. The first sentence mentions it.

44. B. The concern of the govt shows positive probability.

45. C. Nothing can be said as the mentality of the workers has not been revealed in the passage.

ENGLISH LANGUAGE

* There is an error in some part (1, 2, 3 & 4) of the following sentences. Find out the error. If you find no error, the answer is 5.

1. Despite having (1) just one per cent of the total (2) number of vehicles in the world, India accounts of (3) six per cent of global accidents (4). No error (5).

2. There is no consensus between historians and archaeologists (1) as to whether (2) the city was actually (3) built in 989 A.D. (4). No error (5).

3. Delhi is well now attuned (1) to the book fairs and it seems (2) its citizens have at last (3) awakened to buy books in many genres (4). No error (5).

4. The injured were kept in the hospital (1) until such time (2) that they were not out of danger (3) and mental shock (4). No error (5).

5. They are too much like freed men (1) to be capable of shaking of (2) their rancour in the (3) manner of free men (4). No error (5).

6. Thus instead of (1) making the best of both worlds (2) as those who call me (3) pro-British, I made the worst of both (4). No error (5).

7. Supposing if (1) you are included in the national team (2) how would you react and respond (3) to the challenge ahead (4). No error (5).

8. All the confusions (1) of his time (2) richly reflected into (3) his shapeless, sprawling but continuously suggestive works (4). No error (5).

9. Some doubted even this (1) and said men (2) could never attain upto (3) such knowledge on earth (4). No error (5).

10. The worst danger to (1) democratic institutions would be if it were (2) pretended that there was nothing (3) whatsoever to worry for (4). No error (5).

* Choose the word most appropriate in meaning for the *italicised* word in the following sentences. Four alternatives are given below each sentence.

11. Five-year plans have been put

into operation to *mitigate* the sufferings of the poor.

- (a) lessen
- (b) remove
- (c) reduce
- (d) cut

12. A *reliable* friend is the gift of God.

- (a) helpful
- (b) true
- (c) honest
- (d) dependable

13. Science has revealed the mysteries of nature to man.

- (a) disclosed
- (b) opened
- (c) cleared
- (d) concealed

14. Indian economy has always shown enough *resilience* in crisis.

- (a) strength
- (b) adjustment
- (c) elasticity
- (d) diversity

15. The cordial talks between the two foreign ministers cover the entire gamut of their relations.

- (a) range
- (b) scope
- (c) sphere
- (d) territory

* Choose the word opposite in meaning for the *italicised* word of the following sentences.

16. An *abortive* attempt was made to blow up the bridge.

- (a) mature
- (b) fruitful
- (c) rewarding
- (d) perfect

17. Marriage in India is a sacred and *solemn* occasion.

- (a) boisterous
- (b) social
- (c) private
- (d) expensive

18. The poet was thought to be both *conceited* and arrogant.

- (a) modest
- (b) low
- (c) poor
- (d) respectful

19. We must try to *liberate* ourselves from greed and avarice.

- (a) surrender

- (b) enslave
- (c) imprison
- (d) punish

20. *Dubious* are the ways of life.

- (a) clear
- (b) straight
- (c) pointed
- (d) certain

* In the following questions re-arrange the sentences A, B, C, D in their proper sequence so as to form a meaningful paragraph. One of the four alternatives is correct.

21. A. nearer where his heart would be

B. a strange light was seen

C. any logical explanation of what caused it

D. nobody could come up with

- (a) BALDC
- (b) CABD
- (c) DABC
- (d) ADCB

22. A. is supreme in determining who shall govern

B. fairly ascertained through the ballot box

C. the will of the masses of the people

D. democracy means that people are willing to accept the results of fair elections

- (a) DABC
- (b) CADB
- (c) DCBA
- (d) ACBD

23. A. the fact that a regime is authoritarian and corrupt

B. the cult of personality wears thin

C. as rising generations reject the pretensions of their elders

D. is not a sufficient for it to collapse

- (a) BCAD
- (b) DCBA
- (c) ADCB
- (d) BDAC

* In questions 24 to 28, five groups of four words are given. In each

OBJECTIVE-TYPE QUESTIONS

group, one word is mis-spelt. Find out the mis-spelt word.

24. (a) receive
(b) seive
(c) conceive
(d) believe
25. (a) embarrass
(b) lattice
(c) terrace (d) harrass
26. (a) expulsion
(b) coersion
(c) suspension
(d) deviation
27. (a) truely
(b) sincerely
(c) gratefully
(d) ideally
28. (a) signify
(b) rectify
(c) diefy (d) nullify

* From the four choices given below each idiom, select the most appropriate in meaning to the idiom.

29. take umbrage
(a) be pleased (b) be satisfied
(c) feel comfortable
(d) feel offended
30. sit on the fence
(a) remain neutral
(b) remain calm
(c) be indifferent
(d) become friendly
31. cool/kick one's heels
(a) keep waiting
(b) to rest (c) run after
(d) be faithful
32. rule the roost
(a) do favour
(b) be the master
(c) become selfish
(d) to exploit
33. eat a humble pie
(a) become modest
(b) humiliate oneself
(c) become selfless
(d) feel proud

* From the four alternatives given below each sentence, fill in the blanks by choosing the most appropriate word.

34. Mrs Sarojini Naidu was an—poetess.
(a) elegant (b) excellent
(c) eminent (d) impressive
35. a brilliant orator and a—freedom fighter.
(a) strong (b) unique
(c) great (d) brave
36. She was endowed—a sense of humour.

- (a) upon (b) for
(c) with (d) by

37. her presence in—room of gathering
(a) any (b) some
(c) one (d) strange
38. was as—several candles
(a) though (b) if
(c) even (d) ever
39. Had been lit—she went
(a) up (b) upon
(c) by (d) into
40. She shed light and—which could
(a) life (b) shade
(c) sound (d) lustre
41. penetrate into the darkest gloom the charms—
(a) of (b) for
(c) and (d) off
42. her personality and the—of her words
(a) beauty (b) effect
(c) distinction (d) magic
43. endeared her—millions.
(a) into (b) with
(c) to (d) by

* Read the following passage carefully and choose the most suitable answer to the questions given below:

In our own times a different dimension has been added to the idea of the guru. Disenchanted by organised religion and secularism alike, and equally by materialistic prosperity, a great many Western men and women, moved by deepest stirrings of mind and spirit, have looked to India for a guru—and found him or her. In response to an unprecedented demand that commodity has materialised in abundance. The selling of a guru has become a highly sophisticated business. One can see, for example, in the subway of Frankhurl's railway station the poster of a famous guru, with his telephone numbers, promising instant nirvana, with two other attractive posters on its either side, one promising instant ecstasy to women who would use a particular brand of perfume, and the other promising to men satisfaction of the male need to control something powerful if they would own a particular make of a car.

44. The word 'commodity' refer to:
(a) materialism
(b) Indian guru
(c) stirrings of mind and spirit
(d) organised religion

45. 'materialised in abundance' means:

- (a) gurus running after material possessions
(b) people giving up material comforts
(c) excessive spiritual satisfaction
(d) using religion for instant nirvana.
46. The word nearest in meaning to "sophisticated" is:
(a) profitable
(b) worldly-wise
(c) spiritual
(d) selfless
47. promising 'instant nirvana' means:
(a) use of a particular car by men and perfume by women being sold by the guru
(b) going back to organised religion and secularism
(c) following the guru blindly
(d) none of the above

ANSWERS

1. (3) accounts for.
2. (1) "among" because the number of historians is unspecified. "Between" is used when two persons are involved and mentioned.
3. (1) The correct expression is: 'is now well attuned'.
4. (3) 'not' with until and unless is redundant; therefore it is not needed.
5. (2) 'shaking off' instead of 'shaking of'.
6. (5) no error.
7. (1) either 'supposing or if' is the correct usage. Both used together make a clumsy expression.
8. (3) reflected in' is the correct usage.
9. (3) 'attain to' and not upto is the correct usage.
10. (4) 'worry about' is the correct verbal expression.
11. (b) 12. (d) 13. (a)
14. (c) 15. (a) 16. (b)
17. (a) 18. (a) 19. (b)
20. (d) 21. (a) 22. (c)
23. (a) 24. (b) sieve
25. (d) harass 26. (b) coercion
27. (a) truly 28. (c) deify
29. (d) 30. (a) 31. (a)
32. (b) 33. (b) 34. (c)
35. (c) 36. (c) 37. (a)
38. (b) 39. (a) 40. (d)
41. (a) 42. (d) 43. (c)
44. (b) 45. (a) 46. (b)
47. (d)

GENERAL AWARENESS

The questions given in this feature were asked in the Assistants' Grade Examination held on the 4th March, 1990.

We are grateful to Sarvshri Saroj Kumar Mishra of Cuttack, Ranveer Kumar of Munger, Nishikant Aspi and Avinash Kumar Gupta of Biharsharif, Md Ejaz Charuanwi of Patna, M.A. Sheikh of Kumta and numerous of our other esteemed readers who sent these questions to us.

* Tick-mark the correct answer out of the choices given:

1. Which practice was in existence during the Rig Vedic period?
(a) Bigamy
(b) ☒ Monogamy
(c) Polygamy
(d) Polyandry
2. Harsha wrote:
(a) Meghasandesam
(b) Kadambari
(c) Raghuvarsa
(d) ☒ Ratnavali
3. Who is supposed to be the mythical founder of Jainism?
(a) Rishabha
(b) Mahavira
(c) Parasavanath
(d) None of these
4. Most of the Ajanta Paintings were completed during the reign of:
(a) Vardhanas
(b) Sakas
(c) Satavahanas
(d) ☒ Guptas
5. In which of the following modern Indian States Asokan inscriptions are not found?
(a) Andhra Pradesh
(b) Orissa
(c) ☒ Tamil Nadu
(d) Karnataka
6. Thirukkural was written during the period of the:
(a) Sangam
(b) Pallavas
(c) Imperial Cholas
(d) ☒ Later Pandyas
7. The port city of the Indus Valley people was:
(a) ☒ Lothal
(b) Harappa

- (c) Mohenjo-daro
(d) Kalibangan
8. Arthasastra is a book on:
(a) Economic Development
(b) Foreign policy
(c) ☒ Administration
(d) Religion
9. The Hathigumpha inscription describes the achievements of:
(a) ☒ Kharavela
(b) Asoka
(c) Harsha
(d) Pulakesin II
10. The prose explanations of the Vedas were known as the:
(a) ☒ Brahmanas
(b) Samhitas
(c) Aranyakas
(d) Upanishads
11. Idol worship in India can be traced to the period of:
(a) Vedas
(b) Kushans
(c) Mauryans
(d) ☒ Pre-Aryan
12. Mahayana form of Buddhism emerged during the reign of:
(a) Asoka
(b) ☒ Kanishka
(c) Samudra Gupta
(d) Harsha
13. Alexander defeated Porus in 326 B.C. at the battle of:
(a) Peshawar
(b) Terrain
(c) Thaneswar
(d) ☒ Hydaspes
14. Which one of the following contains the Gayatri Mantra?
(a) Rig Veda
(b) Yajur Veda
(c) Upanishad
(d) Aranyakas
15. The Mughal Emperors who wrote their autobiographies:
(a) Babur and Humayun
(b) ☒ Babur and Jehangir
(c) Akbar and Jehangir
(d) Aurangzeb and Shah Jahan
16. The Ashtapradhan was the Council of Ministers during the reign of:
(a) ☒ Akbar
(b) Shivaji
(c) Krishnadeva Raya

- (d) Tipu Sultan.
17. To encourage British investments in India, Lord Dalhousie:
(a) encouraged industries
(b) patronised agriculture
(c) ☒ induced English Companies to undertake construction of Railways and Telegraphs
(d) introduced a cheap and uniform rate of postage for the whole of India
18. The immediate cause of invasion of Ahmed Shah Abdali on India was:
(a) he was attracted by its wealth
(b) ☒ the Indian rulers were weak
(c) he had a strong army
(d) he was invited by Shah Nawaz Khan
19. Vasco da Gama landed in India at:
(a) Cochin
(b) ☒ Calicut
(c) Madras
(d) Bombay
20. Wood's despatch of 1854 resulted in the:
(a) establishment of Indian Universities
(b) ☒ introduction of Postal system
(c) abolition of child marriage
(d) establishment of technical schools
21. The 'dual government' introduced by Robert Clive in Bengal was a failure because:
(a) the Home Government did not encourage it
(b) he was not a good administrator
(c) ☒ power was divorced from responsibility
(d) local people rose against Clive
22. Guru Gobind Singh sent Banda Bahadur to Punjab:
(a) to establish Sikh empire
(b) because he was a great warrior
(c) ☒ to crush the enemies of Khalsa
(d) to defeat the Hindus
23. The first Muslim invader of India was:

OBJECTIVE-TYPE QUESTIONS

- (d) Muhammad Bin Kasim
(b) Mahmud of Ghazni
(c) Muhammad of Ghori
(d) Babur
24. Who among the following Delhi Sultans was criticised as a mixture of opposites?
(a) Balban
(b) Jalaluddin Khilji
(c) Muhammad Bin Tughlak
(d) Firoz Tughlaq
25. Who united all the Sikhs and founded a kingdom in the Punjab:
(a) Guru Nanak
(b) Guru Gobind Singh
(c) Maharaja Ranjit Singh
(d) Guru Teg Bahadur
26. The battle of Plassey was a notable incident because:
(a) the British won over the French
(b) it established English control over Bengal
(c) the English East India Company got more trade commission
(d) Company's rule came to an end
27. Bombay was taken by the English East Indian Company from:
(a) The Portuguese
(b) Charles I
(c) Charles II
(d) the Dutch
28. Chengiz Khan invaded India during the rule of:
(a) Qutubuddin Aibak
(b) Iltutmish
(c) Balban
(d) Alauddin Khilji
29. The cirque is developed by:
(a) glacial action
(b) winds
(c) running water
(d) waves
30. Which one of the spaceships has been sent into space more often than the other?
(a) Discovery
(b) Challenger
(c) Columbia
(d) Apollo
31. Which one of the following is an artificial harbour?
(a) Madras
(b) Calcutta
(c) Kandla
(d) Cochin
32. For achieving quick increase in milk production, India is advised to do:
(a) cross breeding
(b) in-breeding
(c) selective breeding
(d) artificial breeding
33. The primary objective of "Green Revolution" in India was:
(a) to increase the extent of cash crop cultivation
(b) to introduce the Japanese method of paddy cultivation
(c) modernisation of agriculture through science and technology
(d) to increase the area of green forests under social forestry scheme
34. Gandhiji organised Dandi March in 1930 against:
(a) atrocities on Harijans
(b) repression of the Congress
(c) the communal award
(d) imposition of tax on salt
35. The Khilafat Movement was started by:
(a) Ali Brothers
(b) Muhammad Ali Jinnah
(c) Dr Zakir Hussain
(d) Fakhruddin Ali Ahmed
36. Who is known as the father of local self government in India?
(a) Wellesley
(b) Cornwallis
(c) Rippon
(d) Amherst
37. The four major components of the atmosphere are:
(a) oxygen, nitrogen, carbon dioxide and argon
(b) oxygen, hydrogen, carbon dioxide and neon
(c) oxygen, nitrogen, carbon dioxide and hydrogen
(d) oxygen, nitrogen, carbon dioxide and water hydrogen
38. The Muslim League demanded a separate nation for the Muslims from the year:
(a) 1920
(b) 1930
(c) 1940
(d) 1946
39. Who was the founder of the Muslim League in 1906?
(a) Nawab Salimullah
(b) Mohammad Ali Jinnah
(c) Sir Syed Ahmed
(d) Shaikat Ali
40. Who of the following participated in all the three Round Table Conferences of 1930-32?
(a) Jawaharlal Nehru
(b) Gandhiji
(c) Rajaji
(d) None of these
41. The High Courts in India were first started at:
(a) Bombay, Madras and Calcutta
(b) Delhi and Calcutta
(c) Madras and Bombay
(d) Bombay, Delhi and Madras
42. There may still be snow on the ground on a warm day in the spring because:
(a) there will not be enough heat to melt the snow
(b) there may be clouds in the sky
(c) the solar energy is reflected away by snow
(d) there may not be any air movement
43. The study of rocks is known as:
(a) Palaeontology
(b) petrology
(c) Seismology
(d) Bathymetry
44. Latitude of a point on the earth is measured by the distance in:
(a) kms from the equator
(b) angles from the equator
(c) angles from the poles
(d) kms from poles
45. The density of population in a specified unit of area is decided by the average number of:
(a) houses
(b) families
(c) persons (inhabitants)
(d) children
46. The earth revolves round the sun and it causes:
(a) differences in longitude and time
(b) differences in climate
(c) deflection of winds and currents
(d) formation of day and night
47. Atomic power is obtained from:
(a) iron
(b) uranium
(c) silver
(d) platinum
48. India leads the world in the export of:
(a) coffee
(b) cotton
(c) manganese
(d) mica
49. Irrigation by means of canals is largely carried on in:
(a) Andhra Pradesh
(b) Madhya Pradesh
(c) Maharashtra
(d) Punjab and Haryana
50. Jute is grown on large scale in the delta of:
(a) Damodar
(b) Ganges
(c) Indus
(d) Sutlej

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Quantitative Aptitude

The questions given below were asked in the Assistants Grade Examination held on March 4, 1990.

We are grateful to Shri Bhola Mukherjee of Patna and some of our other esteemed readers who sent these questions to us.

*Tick-mark the correct answer out of the choices given.

1. If $\sqrt{15625} = 125$, then the value of $\sqrt{15625} + \sqrt{156.25} + \sqrt{1.5625}$ is:
(a) 1.3875 (b) 13.875 (c) 138.75 (d) 156.25
2. $\frac{1}{4}$ of a number subtracted from $\frac{1}{3}$ of the number gives 12. Then the number is:
(a) 72 (b) 120 (c) 144 (d) 63
3. Square root of $\frac{0.324 \times 0.081 \times 4.624}{1.5625 \times 0.0289 \times 72.9 \times 64}$ is:
(a) 24.0 (b) 2.40 (c) 0.024 (d) None of these
4. $\frac{(0.5)^3 + (0.6)^3}{(0.5)^2 - (0.3) + (0.6)^2}$ is equal to:
(a) 0.1 (b) 1.1 (c) 0.3 (d) 0.6
5. If $\sqrt{1 + \frac{25}{144}} = 1 + \frac{x}{12}$, then x equals:
(a) 1 (b) 2 (c) 5 (d) 7
6. If $\sqrt{2^n} = 64$, then the value of n is:
(a) 2 (b) 4 (c) 6 (d) 12
7. If 5 poles are erected at equal distances between two points 20 metres apart, what is the distance between any two of the poles?
(a) 4 metres (b) 5 metres (c) 2 metres (d) 3 metres
8. The number of terms in the sequence 4, 11, 18, ..., 186 is:
(a) 17 (b) 25 (c) 26 (d) 27
9. The eighth term of 9, 6, 3, 0 is:
(a) -15 (b) -12 (c) -6 (d) -3
10. Least multiple of 7 which leaves a remainder 3, when divided by 4 or 12 or 16 is:
(a) 147 (b) 168 (c) 195 (d) 140
11. The next number in the sequence:
 $\frac{1}{22}, \frac{4}{23}, \frac{9}{24}, \frac{16}{25}, \frac{25}{26}, \frac{36}{27}$ is:
(a) $\frac{20}{28}$ (b) $\frac{47}{28}$ (c) $\frac{49}{28}$ (d) $\frac{48}{28}$

12. If $\frac{x}{2y} = \frac{3}{2}$, then the value of $\frac{2x+y}{x-2y}$ equals:

- (a) $\frac{1}{7}$ (b) 7 (c) 7.1 (d) None of these

13. The value of

$1 + \frac{1}{1.2} + \frac{1}{1.2.4} + \frac{1}{1.2.4.8} + \frac{1}{1.2.4.8.16}$ correct to 4 places of decimals is:

- (a) 1.6414 (b) 1.6415 (c) 1.6416 (d) 1.6423

14. The value of:

$\frac{(9.6 \times 9.6 \times 9.6 - 5.4 \times 5.4 \times 5.4)}{9.6 \times 9.6 + 9.6 \times 5.4 + 5.4 \times 5.4}$ is:

- (a) 5.1 (b) 1.5 (c) 4.6 (d) 4.2

15. If A : B = 7 : 9 and B : C = 3 : 5, then A : B : C is:

- (a) 7 : 9 : 5 (b) 21 : 35 : 45 (c) 7 : 9 : 15 (d) 7 : 3 : 15

16. A journalist travelled 1200 km by air which formed $\frac{2}{5}$ of his trip. The remaining part of his trip was one-third of the whole trip by car and the rest by train. The distance travelled by train is:

- (a) 220 km (b) 800 km (c) 1600 km (d) 1800 km

17. In an examination a student was asked to find $\frac{3}{14}$ of a certain number. By mistake, he found $\frac{3}{4}$ of it His answer was 150 more than the correct answer. The given number is:

- (a) 290 (b) 280 (c) 240 (d) 180

18. The value of

$1 + \frac{1}{1 + \frac{1}{1 + \frac{1}{9}}}$ is:

- (a) $\frac{29}{20}$ (b) $\frac{10}{19}$ (c) $\frac{29}{19}$ (d) $\frac{10}{9}$

19. 5% of 10% of Rs 175 is:

- (a) 0.875 (b) 0.50 (c) 8.75 (d) 17.5

20. A's income is 25% more than B's income. The % of B's income in terms of A's income is:

- (a) 75% (b) 80% (c) 90% (d) 125%

21. The number .05 is how many per cent of 20?

- (a) 1.5 (b) .025 (c) .25 (d) 2.5

22. If x is 90% of y, what per cent of x is y?

- (a) 101% (b) 190% (c) 90% (d) 111.1%

23. A number exceeds by 40 when added by 20% of

OBJECTIVE-TYPE QUESTIONS

itself. The number is:

- (a) 200 (b) 60 (c) 80 (d) 320

24. 5 out of 2250 parts of the earth is sulphur. What is the percentage of sulphur in the earth?

- (a) $\frac{11}{50}\%$ (b) $\frac{2}{9}\%$ (c) $\frac{1}{45}\%$ (d) $\frac{2}{45}\%$

25. Which number is 60% less than 80?

- (a) 48 (b) 42 (c) 32 (d) 12

26. If $\frac{a}{3} = \frac{b}{4} = \frac{c}{7}$, the value of $\frac{a+b+c}{c}$ is:

- (a) 7 (b) 2 (c) $\frac{1}{2}$ (d) $\frac{1}{7}$

27. If the ratio of the two squares is 9 : 1, the ratio of their perimeters is:

- (a) 9 : 1 (b) 3 : 4 (c) 3 : 1 (d) 1 : 3

28. If $\frac{a}{b} = \frac{1}{2}$, the value of $\frac{a+b}{a-b}$ is:

- (a) -3 (b) $\frac{1}{2}$ (c) 2 (d) $-\frac{1}{3}$

29. If 16% of 40% of a number is 8, the number is:

- (a) 200 (b) 225 (c) 125 (d) 320

30. A man purchased a bag of rice containing 70 kg for Rs 175. He sold it at the rate of Rs 2.75 per kg. Find the profit or loss%.

- (a) 10% profit (b) 10% loss (c) 12.5% profit (d) 12.5% loss

31. By selling a cow for Rs 918, a dealer got 12 $\frac{1}{2}\%$ profit. The cost price of cow was:

- (a) Rs 800 (b) Rs 816 (c) Rs 830 (d) Rs 848

32. A wholesaler sells 30 pens for the price of 27 pens to a retailer. The retailer sells the pens at their marked price. The profit for the retailer is:

- (a) 11% (b) 10% (c) 11 $\frac{1}{9}\%$ (d) 9 $\frac{1}{11}\%$

33. A dishonest shopkeeper professes to sell pulses, at the cost price. But he uses a false weight of 950 gm for a kg. His gain is:

- (a) 6% (b) 5.26% (c) 5% (d) 6.5%

34. The ratio of chickens to pigs to horses on a farm is 10 : 2 : 3. If there are 120 chickens on the farm, then the number of horses on the farm will be:

- (a) 180 (b) 36 (c) 24 (d) 3

35. A sum of money yields at compound interest Rs 200 and Rs 220 at the end of first and second year respectively. The rate % is:

- (a) 20 (b) 15 (c) 10 (d) 5

36. The simple interest on a certain sum for 3 years at 4% per annum is Rs 48. The principal is:

- (a) Rs 550 (b) Rs 500 (c) Rs 450 (d) Rs 400

37. A shopkeeper increased the price of an article first by 25% and then by 20%. What is the total percentage of increase?

- (a) 40 (b) 45 (c) 50 (d) 55

38. If a sum of Rs 1600 gives a simple interest of Rs 252 in two years and 3 months, then the rate of interest is:

- (a) 5 $\frac{1}{2}\%$ per annum (b) 8% per annum
(c) 7% per annum (d) 6% per annum

39. What is the compound interest of Rs 4000 for 2 years at the rate of 10% per annum?

- (a) 480 (b) 800 (c) 820 (d) 840

40. In what time will Rs 72 become Rs 81 at 6 $\frac{1}{4}\%$ per annum simple interest?

- (a) 1 year 6 months (b) 2 years
(c) 2 years 3 months (d) 2 years 6 months

41. If 5 men can do a piece of work in 6 days and 10 women can do it in 5 days, in how many days can 3 men and 5 women do the same piece of work?

- (a) 3 days (b) 6 days (c) 5 days (d) 4 days

42. A works twice as fast as B. If B can complete a piece of work independently in 12 days, find in how many days A and B together can complete the work?

- (a) 18 days (b) 4 days (c) 6 days
(d) 8 days

43. If 24 men can do a piece of work in 27 days working 7 hours per day, in how many days can 14 men do it working at the rate of 9 hours per day?

- (a) 28 days (b) 30 days (c) 32 days (d) 36 days

44. A and B can together do a piece of work in 15 days. B alone can do it in 20 days. In how many days can A do it alone?

- (a) 60 days (b) 45 days (c) 40 days (d) 30 days

45. A train moving with a speed of 40 km per hour takes 2 hours 6 minutes more to cover a certain distance than a train moving at 96 km per hour. What is the distance?

- (a) 117.6 km (b) 154 km (c) 124 km
(d) 144 km

46. A train runs at 45 km/hr. How far does it go in 6 seconds?

- (a) 72 metres (b) 60 metres (c) 75 metres
(d) 70 metres

47. In a test a batch of 60 students made an average score of 55 runs and another batch of 40 made it only 45. What is the overall average score?

- (a) 55 runs (b) 50 runs (c) 51 runs (d) 45 runs

48. If a train running at 72 km/hr crosses a coconut tree standing by the side of the track in 7 seconds, the length of the train is:

- (a) 104 m (b) 140 m (c) 504 m (d) 540 m

49. A man buys a T.V. set which is listed for Rs 18,000 at a 10% discount. He gets a further discount of 2% on the balance because he pays cash. The amount he actually paid for the set is:

- (a) Rs 16,526 (b) Rs 16,200 (c) Rs 15,876
(d) Rs 15,840

50. A person marks his goods 20% higher than the cost price and allows a discount of 5%. The percentage of his profit is:

- (a) 15% (b) 20% (c) 5% (d) 14%

OBJECTIVE-TYPE QUESTIONS

ANSWERS & EXPLANATIONS

1. (c)
2. (c)
3. (c) The number of digits after decimals in both denominators and numerators being equal, we have to find square root of:

$$\frac{324 \times 81 \times 4624}{15625 \times 289 \times 729 \times 64}$$

$$\frac{18 \times 9 \times 68}{125 \times 17 \times 27 \times 8}$$
 We get $\frac{3}{125}$ or .024
4. (b) $.5^3 + .6^3 = .125 + .216 = .341 \dots (i)$
 $(.5)^2 - (.3) + (.6)^2$
 $= .25 - .3 + .36$
 $= (.25 + .36) - .3 = .61 - .3$
 $= .31 \dots (ii)$
 $.341 + .31 = 1.1$
5. (a) $\sqrt{1 + \frac{25}{144}} = \sqrt{\frac{169}{144}} = \frac{13}{12} = 1 + \frac{1}{12}$
 $\therefore x = 1$
6. (d) $\sqrt{2^n} = 64$
 $\sqrt{12 \text{ times } n} = 64$
 $\sqrt{2^{12}} = 64$
 $n = 12$
7. (b)
8. (d)
9. (b)
10. (a)
11. (c) $\frac{36+13}{27+1} = \frac{49}{28}$
12. (b) $\frac{x}{2y} + \frac{3}{2} \therefore x = 3, y = 1$
 $\frac{2 \times 3 + 1}{3 - 2} = 7$
13. (c) $1 + \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{8} + \frac{1}{64} + \frac{1}{1024}$
 $= 1 + \frac{512 + 128 + 16 + 1}{1024}$
 $= 1 + \frac{657}{1024} = 1 + .6416 \text{ or } 1.6416$
14. (d) Suppose $9.6 = a$ and $5.4 = b$
 $\frac{(a^3 - b^3)}{a^2 + ab + b^2} = \frac{(a - b)(a^2 + ab + b^2)}{a^2 + ab + b^2}$
 $= a - b \text{ or } 9.6 - 5.4 = 4.2$
15. (c) $A : B = 7 : 9$
 $B : C = 3 : 5 \text{ or } 9 : 15$
 $\therefore A : B : C = 7 : 9 : 15$
16. (b) By air $\frac{2}{5}$ of the trip
 Total distance = $\frac{1200 \times 5}{2} + 3000 \text{ km}$

By air 1200

Balance 1800

By car ($\frac{1}{3}$ of whole) = 1000

Balance by train = 800

17. (b) Suppose the number is 56

$$56 \times \frac{3}{14} = 12$$

$$56 \times \frac{3}{4} = 42$$

It is 30 more

If it is 30 more, the actual number = 56

If it is 150 more the actual number
 $= \frac{150 \times 56}{30} = 280$

18. (c)

19. (a) 10% of 175 = 17.5

$$5\% \text{ of } 17.5 = 0.875$$

20. (b) Suppose B's income = 100

Then A's income = 125

If A's income 125, B's = 100

If A's income 100, B's = $\frac{100 \times 100}{125} = 80\%$

21. (c) $\frac{100 \times 5}{20 \times 100} = \frac{1}{4} = .25\%$

22. (d) If x is 90, y = 100

$$\text{If } x \text{ is } 100, y = \frac{100 \times 100}{90} = 111.1$$

23. (a)

24. (b) Out of 2250 parts of earth, sulphur = 5

$$\text{Out of } 100 \text{ parts of earth, sulphur} = \frac{100 \times 5}{2250} = \frac{2}{9}\%$$

25. (a) $\frac{80 \times 60}{100} = 48$

26. (b) $a = 3, b = 4, c = 7$

$$\frac{a+b+c}{c} = \frac{3+4+7}{7} = 2$$

27. (c) Ratio of bigger and smaller squares = 9 : 1

One side of bigger sq = 3

Perimeter = $3 \times 4 = 12$

Perimeter of smaller square = $1 \times 4 = 4$

Ratio of perimeters = $12 : 4 = 3 : 1$

28. (a) $a = 1, b = 2$

$$\frac{1+2}{1-2} = \frac{3}{-1}$$

3 divided by $-1 = -3$

29. (c) 8 is 16% of $\frac{8 \times 100}{16} = 50$

$$50 \text{ is } 40\% \text{ of } \frac{50 \times 100}{40} = 125$$

30. (a) C.P. of 20 kg = 175

$$\text{C.P. of } 1 \text{ kg} = \frac{175}{20} = 8.75$$

S.P. of 1 kg = 2.75

S.P. of 70 kg = 192.50

OBJECTIVE-TYPE QUESTIONS

$$\text{Profit} = 19.50 - 175 = 17.50$$

$$\text{Profit on } 175 = 17.50$$

$$\text{Profit on } 100 = \frac{100 \times 17.50}{175} = 10\%$$

$$31. (b) \text{ C.P.} = \frac{\text{S.P.} \times 100}{100 + \text{profit}} = \frac{918 \times 100}{112.50} = 816$$

$$32. (c) \text{ Profit on } 27 = 3$$

$$\text{Profit on } 100 = \frac{100 \times 3}{27} = 11 \frac{1}{9}\%$$

$$33. (b) \text{ Gain on } 950 = 50$$

$$\text{Gain on } 100 = \frac{100 \times 50}{950} = \frac{100}{19} = 5.26\%$$

$$34. (b) \text{ Chickens are } 10 \times 12 = 120$$

$$\text{Multiply } 3 \times 12 \text{ for horses} = 36$$

$$35. (c)$$

$$36. P = \frac{\text{S.I.} \times 100}{r \times t} = \frac{48 \times 100}{4 \times 3} = 400$$

$$37. (c) \text{ By increase of } 25\%$$

$$\text{price becomes } 125$$

$$20\% \text{ of } 125 = 25$$

$$\text{Total increase \%} = 25 + 25 = 50$$

$$38. (c) \text{ Rate} = \frac{\text{S.I.} \times 100}{p \times t} = \frac{252 \times 100 \times 4}{1600 \times 9} = 7\%$$

$$39. (d) \text{ C.I.} = P \left[\left(1 + \frac{r}{100} \right)^t - 1 \right]$$

$$\text{C.I.} = 4000 \left[\left(1 + \frac{10}{100} \right)^2 - 1 \right]$$

$$= 4000 \left[\left(\frac{11}{10} \times \frac{11}{10} \right) - 1 \right]$$

$$= 4000 \times \left(\frac{121}{100} - 1 \right)$$

$$= 4000 \times \frac{21}{100} = 840$$

$$40. (b) \text{ Time} = \frac{\text{S.I.} \times 100}{r \times p}$$

$$= \frac{9 \times 100 \times 4}{72 \times 25} = 2 \text{ years}$$

$$41. (c) \text{ 5 men can do in 6 days}$$

$$1 \text{ man can do in } 30 \text{ days}$$

$$10 \text{ women can do in } 5 \text{ days}$$

$$1 \text{ woman can do in } 50 \text{ days}$$

$$3 \text{ men can do it in } 30 \div 3 = 10 \text{ days}$$

$$5 \text{ women can do it in } 50 \div 5 = 10 \text{ days}$$

$$(3 \text{ men's work is equal to } 5 \text{ women's work})$$

$$\text{So, 3 men and 5 women together will do it in}$$

$$\frac{10}{2} = 5 \text{ days}$$

$$42. (b)$$

$$43. (d)$$

men	hours	days
24	7	27
1	1	$24 \times 7 \times 27$
14	9	$\frac{24 \times 7 \times 27}{9 \times 14} = 36$

$$44. (d) \text{ A and B in } 15 \text{ days}$$

$$\text{Balance in } 20 \text{ days}$$

$$\text{B's 5 days' work} = \text{A's 15 days work}$$

$$\text{A alone will do it in } 15 + 15 = 30 \text{ days}$$

$$45. (d) \text{ Suppose distance} = 480 \text{ (L.C.M. of 40 and 96)}$$

$$\text{The train at speed of } 40$$

$$\text{takes} = \frac{480}{40} = 12 \text{ hrs}$$

$$\text{The train at speed of } 96 = \frac{480}{96} = 5 \text{ hrs}$$

$$\text{Difference} = 12 - 5 = 7 \text{ hrs}$$

$$\text{If difference is } 7 \text{ hrs distance} = 480$$

$$\text{If difference is } 2 \text{ hrs } 6 \text{ mts distance}$$

$$= \frac{480 \times 21}{7 \times 10} = 144$$

$$46. (c) \text{ In } 360 \text{ seconds, it runs } 4500 \text{ metres}$$

$$\text{In } 6 \text{ seconds} = \frac{6 \times 4500}{360} = 75 \text{ m}$$

$$47. (c) 60 \times 55 = 330$$

$$40 \times 45 = 1800$$

$$100 \text{ students' runs} = 330 + 1800 = 5100$$

$$\text{Average} = 5100 \div 100 = 51$$

$$48. (b) \text{ In } 360 \text{ seconds} = 7200 \text{ m}$$

$$\text{In } 7 \text{ seconds} = \frac{7 \times 7200}{360} = 140$$

$$49. (c)$$

$$\text{Listed price} = 18,000$$

$$10\% \text{ discount} = 1,800$$

$$\text{Balance} = 16,200$$

$$\text{Less } 2\% \text{ cash}$$

$$\text{discount} = 324$$

$$\text{Amount paid} = 15,876$$

$$50. (d) \text{ Suppose C.P.} = 100$$

$$\text{Marked price} = 120$$

$$\text{less } 5\% \text{ discount on } 120 = 6$$

GENERAL AWARENESS

(Contd from page 692)

ANSWERS

- | | |
|---------|---------|
| 1. (b) | 2. (d) |
| 3. (a) | 4. (d) |
| 5. (c) | 6. (d) |
| 7. (a) | 8. (c) |
| 9. (a) | 10. (a) |
| 11. (d) | 12. (b) |
| 13. (d) | 14. (a) |
| 15. (b) | 16. (b) |
| 17. (c) | 18. (b) |
| 19. (b) | 20. (b) |
| 21. (c) | 22. (c) |
| 23. (a) | 24. (c) |
| 25. (c) | 26. (b) |
| 27. (c) | 28. (b) |
| 29. (a) | 30. (b) |
| 31. (a) | 32. (a) |
| 33. (c) | 34. (d) |
| 35. (a) | 36. (c) |
| 37. (a) | 38. (c) |
| 39. (a) | 40. (d) |
| 41. (a) | 42. (b) |
| 43. (b) | 44. (b) |
| 45. (c) | 46. (d) |
| 47. (b) | 48. (c) |
| | 49. (d) |
| | 50. (a) |

THE EXAMINER'S GUESS QUESTIONS

Q. What was the per capita annual income of an Indian in 1988-89?

Ans. Rs 2082 in real terms. At current prices it comes to Rs 3825.

Q. What growth rate of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) was recorded in 1988-89?

Ans. 10.4 per cent at factor cost at constant (1980-81) prices. It is estimated at Rs 1,88,481 crore as against Rs 1,70,716 crore in 1987-88. At current prices it is estimated at Rs 3,48,896 crore as against Rs 2,94,408 crore in 1987-88, showing an increase of 18.5 per cent.

Total Income: At constant prices it has been estimated at Rs 1,66,593 crore showing an increase of 11.1 per cent over previous year. At current prices the national income is estimated at Rs 3,06,822 crore, a rise of 19 per cent over 1987-88.

Gross Domestic Savings: In 1988-89 at current prices amounted to Rs 82,044 crore as against Rs 65,309 crore in 1987-88, constituting 21 per cent GDP.

Q. What are the Highlights of the 1989-90 economic survey?

—Slow down in GDP growth around 4 to 4.5 per cent in 1989-90 against 10.4 per cent recorded in the previous year.

—Inflation rate higher—7.7 per cent against 5.3 per cent in 1988-89.

—Deceleration in industrial growth—5.2 per cent during April-November 1989 compared to 9.4 per cent in the corresponding period of 1988.

—Exchange reserves deplete to Rs 5,531 crore at the end of January 1990.

—Net interest burden up during the decade—from 3.6 per cent of total expenditure in 1980-81 to 10.1 per cent in 1989-90.

—Large expansion in net RBI credit to the Central Government by 26.2 per cent compared with 18 per cent in the corresponding period of 1988-89.

—Growth in money supply—14.9 per cent compared to 14.5 per cent in the corresponding period in 1988-89.

—Defence expenditure accounts for

nearly 70 per cent of government consumption expenditure.

Positive Features

—Export surge continues recording 38.3 per cent increase but imports register slower growth of 20.7 per cent in rupee terms.

—Significantly trade deficit declines by 16.4 per cent to Rs 5,518 crore.

—Petroleum sector performance well, crude petroleum production increases by 6.9 per cent and petroleum products by 9.1 per cent.

—Wholesale price index registers seven per cent increase up to February 17, 1990 compared with five per cent in the corresponding period in 1988-89.

—Consumer price index, however, registers a fall—5.5 per cent up to January 1990, which is lower than 7.8 per cent in corresponding period in 1988-89.

Q. List out the highlights of 1990-91 union budget?

Ans. New levies to net Rs 1959 crore.

—Rs 7206 crore gap left uncovered (anticipated deficit).

—1989-90 Budget deficit, which was estimated to be Rs 7,337 crore actually escalated to Rs 11,750 crore.

—Gold Control Act to be abolished. The act was introduced in 1963 with the broad objective of curbing the demand for gold, but had been largely ineffective.

—Defence allocated Rs 15,750 crore. This is an increase of 8 per cent.

—Central assistance to States and Union Territories has been hiked by 22.9 per cent. It will be Rs 12,848 crore.

—The Central plan outlay is up by Rs 4,883 crore. Of the total outlay Rs 17,344 will be as budgetary support and the balance will be mobilised by public sector units.

—There is a proposal to introduce a scheme for providing debt relief to farmers who have taken loans upto Rs 10,000 from public sector banks and regional rural banks.

—Income-tax exemption limit raised to Rs 22,000.

—Lowest rate of 20 per cent extended from Rs 25,000 to Rs 30,000.

—Eight per cent surcharge to continue beyond taxable income of Rs 75,000 against present limit of Rs 50,000.

—Tax rebate of 20 per cent on savings on provident fund, LIC and NSC with maximum tax rebate upto Rs 10,000.

—Limit available for savings incentives under Section 80 CCA (national savings scheme, Jeevan Dhara etc.) raised from Rs 30,000 to Rs 40,000.

—Deduction upto maximum of Rs 10,000 eligible for investment in equity linked savings scheme.

—Tax rate for widely held domestic companies fixed at 40 per cent.

—Provision concerning minimum tax on profits contained in Section 115 (I) of the Income-tax Act discontinued.

—Excise duty on refined rapeseed oil and mustard oil removed fully, as also on pickles.

—Complete exemption from excise for clearance of goods by small scale industries raised from Rs 15 lakh to Rs 20 lakh.

—Uniform customs duty of 250 per cent for baggage in excess proposed.

—Free allowance admissible to passengers arriving from abroad increased from Rs 1,250 to Rs 2,000 per passenger.

Q. As on end-March, 1989 what were the aggregate internal and external debts outstanding against India?

Ans. Internal debt: Rs 2,03,726 crore and External debt: Rs 68,831. The interest payment during 1988-89 on the internal and external debt is estimated to have been Rs 14,278 crore and Rs 2,695 crore respectively.

Q. What amount of loss was incurred by the public sector during 1986-87?

Ans. Rs 1524.09 crore.

Q. Which country has become the world's 171st independent nation?

Ans. Namibia. It is 52nd free nation of Africa.

SPORTS

WINTER ASIAN GAMES

Japan on Top

Japan proved supreme in the second Winter Asian Games which concluded at Sapporo (Japan) on March 15. The participants from 10 countries and territories included 305 competitors and 136 officials. Hong Kong sent four officials only. These Games were first played in Japan in 1986 and the next of the series will be staged in North Korea.

India and newcomers Taiwan, Philippines and Iran returned without a medal. The final tally was:

Country	Gold	Silver	Bronze
Japan	18	16	13
China	9	9	8
S. Korea	6	7	8
North Korea	0	1	4
Mongolia	0	0	1

World Record

Sailing over the bar at 6.05 metres, twenty-six-year-old Olympic and world outdoor pole vault champion Sergei Babuka of the Soviet Union bettered his own indoor world record in an international meet at Donetsk (USSR) on March 18. His previous best of 6.03 metres was set at Osaka (Japan) in January, 1989.

A.-I. Police Games

Border Security Force won the Athletics team title in the All-India Police Games, which concluded at New Delhi on March 25. Winners for the last 11 years, Central Reserve Police were relegated to the second position. The best athlete award for men was shared by Roy P. Joseph of Kerala and Tara Singh of Punjab. In the women's section, the award was claimed by Meena Jain of the Central Industrial Force.

National Cross-Country Race

The star-studded combined Services retained the men's title in the 24th National Cross-Country Race at Pune on March 7. Hav Vijay Kumar bagged the gold in the 12-km race. Railways Nanda Yadav retained her title in 5-km race.

Hosts Maharashtra won the overall championship with 34 points.

World Record

Britain's Peter Elliot set the world indoor record in the men's 1,500 metres by timing three minutes 34.21 seconds at Madrid on March 1. Gold medallist of the Commonwealth Games in New Zealand, Elliot beat the old world mark of three minutes 35.6 seconds, set by Markus O'Sullivan of Ireland in February, 1989.

BADMINTON

All-England Championships

Displaying devastating form and superb tactics, Zhao Jianhua of China won the men's crown in the All-England Badminton Championships which concluded in London on March 18.

Indonesia captured the women's singles crown for the first time when top-seeded Susi Susanti outplayed Huang Hun of China.

South Korea scored a grand double by winning both the men's and women's doubles titles. In the men's section, Park Joo-Bong and Kim Moon defeated Li Yongbo and Tian Bingyi (Japan) by 17-14, 15-9. The women's doubles title was won by Chuny Myung-Hee and Hwang Hye-Young who defeated England's Gillian Gowers and Gillian Clark by 6-15, 15-4, 15-4.

BOXING

World Super Lightweight Title

Julio Caesar Chavez of Mexico retained his World Boxing Council super lightweight title when he stopped American Meldrick Taylor at two minutes and 58 seconds of the 12th round at Las Vegas on March 18.

National Championships

Services, with 68 points, retained the team title in the 36th National Boxing Championships which concluded at Calcutta on March 28. Railways (40 points) and Haryana (17 points) were placed second and third respectively. Mukund Kellekar (Services) was adjudged the "Best Boxer" of the Championships.

CHESS

National Team Championship

Indian Airlines, with a tally of 20 points, won the National Team Chess Championship at Madras on March 1. Indian Bank, with 18.5 points, secured the second place and top seeds Neyveli Lignite Corporation finished third with 18 points.

CRICKET

Ranji Trophy

The Ranji Trophy, donated by the late Maharaja Bhupindra Singh of Patiala in 1934, became the proud possession of Bengal after 51 years when they defeated Delhi in the rain-marred final of the prestigious Cricket Tournament by a better run quotient at Calcutta on March 28.

Bengal, replying to Delhi's first innings score of 278, ended up making 212 for four, including 36 bonus runs, as Delhi bowled nine overs short, and secured a run quotient of 53 against Delhi's 27.80. Arun Lal (Bengal) was adjudged the "Man of the Match" for his unbeaten 52.

Azhar Retained Captain

Mohammad Azharuddin, who led India during the New Zealand tour, was retained captain of the Indian cricket teams for the six-Nation Australian Cup Tournament at Sharjah and England tour this summer, according to an announcement at Calcutta on March 24 by the Board of Control for Cricket in India.

Rothman's Cup

The three-nation Rothman's Cup Limited Overs Cricket Championship ended at Auckland on March 12 in a triumph for World Cup champions Australia. In the final, they defeated New Zealand by eight wickets, ending the triangular series with a perfect 5-0 record. New Zealand finished 1-4 and India 1-3. Dean Jones, who scored an unbeaten 102 for Australia, was named the "Man of the Match".

EQUESTRIAN

National Championships

Man and beast combined with remarkable understanding and cohesion and provided some daredevil and thrilling performances in the Classic 30th National and Inter-Command Equestrian Championships which concluded at Chandigarh on March 4.

Major J.S. Ahluwalia and his mount Elixer emerged champion rider and champion horse respectively.

Show Jumping: Major Ahluwalia won the coveted Western Command Trophy in the National show jumping Grade 1 competition with a total of eight penalty points.

Juniors' Show Jumping: M.P. Godara, on Steel, with a clear round of the jumping arena, stole the limelight in the show jumping for juniors.

Women's Hacks: The ladies' hacks saw 10 charming, well-turned-out women riding their fillies gracefully. Sujata Dass, the BSF girl who participated in the endurance ride, won the hearts of the judges with her graceful riding posture and the handling of her mount.

Tent-pegging: Seniors: The B.S.F. team of Ajmer Singh, Mangtu Ram, Shamsher Singh and Ram Pal stole the honours in tent-pegging for seniors. **Juniors:** Teenager Paramjit Walia of Chandigarh wrested the tent-pegging title from boys in the junior section when she pegged all three times in the second round.

Dressage: Captain Adhiraj Singh became the new National dressage champion wrestling the title from Major J.S. Ahluwalia by a narrow margin of five points.

FOOTBALL

Nizam Gold Cup

Mohammedan Sporting Club of Calcutta won the Nizam Gold Cup Football Tournament defeating J.C.T. Mills, Phagwara, by 2-1 in the final at Hyderabad on March 28.

GOLF

Indian Open Championship

Displaying brilliant form, 24-year-old Andrew Debusk, a professional from Texas, USA, won the prestigious 1,20,000-dollar Wells Open Golf Championship with a four-round cumulative score of under par 288 at Calcutta on March 12. He

carried home the first prize of 19,092 dollars.

HANDBALL

World Title

Sweden sprang a major upset when they defeated Olympic champions and hot favourites the Soviet Union, 27-23, in the final to win the men's world handball title for the first time in over 30 years at Prague on March 12.

HOCKEY

Maharaja Ranjit Singh Gold Cup

Punjab and Sind Bank lifted the glittering Maharaja Ranjit Singh Hockey Gold Cup defeating Namdhari Vidyat Jatha by a solitary goal in the final at Amritsar on March 24.

Indira Gandhi Gold Cup

India has won the six-nation Indira Gandhi Gold Cup Hockey Tournament which concluded at Lucknow on March 6. Besides India, South Korea, Malaysia, Japan, Poland and Kenya participated.

SQUASH

Richest Prize for Jahangir

The Pakistani legend, Jahangir Khan, won the richest men's squash tournament in the world when he overcame Australian Chris Robertson in the final of the 1,02,000-dollar Welsh Classic at Cardiff.

SWIMMING

World Record

Mark Tewksbury of Canada became the first swimmer to break the 54-second mark in 100 metre backstroke when he set a new world record at the Canadian National Swimming Championships at Saskatoon on March 2. He made four trips through the 25-metre pool in 53.69 seconds to beat the old mark of 54.20 seconds set by West German Dirk Richter in 1985.

TENNIS

Hard Court National Championships

Twenty-year-old top-seeded Zeeshan Ali of Bengal bagged a double when he won the men's singles and the doubles in the Hard Court National Tennis Championships at Bombay on March 3.

Zeeshan first demolished second seed Enrico Piperno, also of Bengal, 6-2, 7-5 in the singles final and then teamed with Piperno to down Narendranath and K.G. Ramesh 6-3, 7-5, to win the doubles crown.

In a one-sided women's final, third seed Aradhana Reddy of Tamil Nadu crushed Krishnamurthy Janaki of Maharashtra 6-1, 6-1.

National Rankings

According to an official announcement at Bombay by the All-India Tennis Association, the top 10 ranked in the country are:

Men: Enrico Piperno 1, Narendranath 2, Zeeshan Ali 3, K.G. Ramesh 4, Mark Ferreira 5, Nandan Bal 6, Asif Ismail 7, Pawan Kapoor 8, Surendra Kumar 9 and Benush Venugopal 10.

Women: Manisha Mehta 1, Bela Pandit 2, Yamini Sekhri 3, Sheetal Khanna and Shujatali 4, V. Arthi 6, Sukanya Choudhary 7, Aradhana Reddy 8, Sohini Kumari 9 and Neeth Deviah 10.

Champions Cup Tournament

Stefan Edberg of Sweden claimed his first title of the year by beating sixth-seeded American Andre Agassi 6-4, 5-7, 7-6, 7-6 in the final of the million-dollar Champions Cup Tennis Tournament at Indian Wells on March 12.

VOLLEYBALL

Federation Cup

Indian Railways coming from behind defeated Tamil Nadu 14-16, 15-5, 15-4, 15-8 to lift the women's title in the Federation Cup Volleyball Tournament at Thiruprayar on March 11.

WRESTLING

National Championships

Topping the table with 81 points (three gold, two silver and two bronze medals) Delhi won the freestyle title for the third consecutive year in the 37th National Wrestling Championships which concluded at Jamshedpur on March 20. Railways (74 points) and Haryana (57 points) finished second and third respectively.

In the Greco-Roman category, Services won the title with 81.5 points (three medals each of gold, silver and bronze). Railways (81 points) and Haryana (67 points) were placed second and third respectively.

Bharat Kesri: Kehar Singh of Railways became the proud winner of the IV Bharat Kesri title when he outpointed his brother Sumer Singh 2-1 in the final at Dera Manan Hana, near Phagwara, on March 14.

Current General Knowledge

ABBREVIATIONS

C-DAC: The Centre for Development of Advanced Computing.

CORE: Caribbean Oceanographic Resources Exploration.

GIST: Graphics and Intelligence-based Script Technology.

NFC: Ninth Finance Commission.

UNGOMAP: The United Nations Good Offices Mission to Afghanistan and Pakistan.

AWARDS

Bharat Ratna, 1990

The Bharat Ratna, the highest civilian honour of India, has been posthumously awarded to Dr Babasaheb Ambedkar who was a champion of the downtrodden and one of the architects of India's Constitution.

Dada Saheb Phalke award, 1989

Melody queen, Lata Mangeshkar, has been given the 1989 Dada Saheb Phalke award for her contribution to the growth of Indian cinema.

The award carries Rs one lakh cash, a citation and a shawl.

National Feature Film Awards, 1989

Best Feature Film (Swarna Kamal): Bagh Bahadur, directed by Mr B. Dasgupta. The film shows the steady destruction of rural folk traditions by cheap urban culture.

Best Direction: Adoor Gopalakrishnan for his work in *Mathilkul*.

Best actor: Mammooty for his role in the films *Mathilkul* and *Oru Vadakkan Veeragatha*.

Best actress: Sreelekha Mukherji for her performance in *Parashuramer Kuthar*.

Best supporting actor: Nana Patekar for his role in a psychotic character in *Parinda*.

Best supporting actress: Manorama for her performance in Tamil film *Pudhia Padhai*.

Best child artist: Mrinmayee Chandorkar for his role in Marathi film *Kalat Nakalat*.

Indira Gandhi award for the best first film of a director: *Wosobipo* in Karbi dialect. The film has been directed by Gautam Bora.

Best film providing popular and wholesome entertainment: *Chandani* (Hindi) and *Gitanjali* (Telugu).

Nargis Dutt award for the best feature film on national integration: *Santha Shishunala Sharifi* (Kannada).

Best children's film: *Ankur Majna Aur Kabootar* (Hindi) and *Jamboosavaari* (Kannada).

Best playback singer: Male: Ajoy Chakraborty for his songs in Bengali film *Chhanda Neer*.

Female: Anuradha Paudwal for her songs in the Marathi film *Kalat Nakalat*.

Best music direction: Sher Choudhary for *Wosobipo*.

Best Jury award: Amitabh Chakraborty for the Bengali film *Kaal Abhirathi*.

Regional films: *Ganashatru* (Bengali), *Percy* (Gujarati), *Salim Langde Pe Mat Ro* (Hindi), *Mane* (Kannada), *Mathilkul* (Malayalam), *Kalat Nakalat* (Marathi), *Andha Diganta* (Oriya), *Marhi Da Deeva* (Punjabi), *Pudhia Padhai* (Tamil), *Suthra Dhaarula* (Telugu).

Best film critic: K.N.T. Sastry.

Oscar Awards, 1990

Best Picture: *Driving Miss Daisy*.

Best Actor: Daniel Day-Lewis for his role in *"My Left Foot"*.

Best Actress: Jessica Tandy for her role in *"Driving Miss Daisy"*.

Best Director: Oliver Stone for his film *"Born on the Fourth of July"*.

Templeton Prize

Social worker, Baba Murlidhar Devidas Amte and Australian Scientist Mr Charles L. Birch share the \$5,80,000 Templeton prize.

DAYS

Earth Day on April 22

April 22 has been declared Earth Day 1990. The day heralded the millennium-end decade of environmental activism in what is envisaged

as the largest global demonstration in history. More than 100 million people, world over, took part to celebrate the Earth Day and help spread the message that the environment should be protected.

The earth's population is now 5.2 billion. A year ago it was an estimated 87.5 million less. 87.5 million a year thus represents a growth rate that could double world population by the year 2025, a harrowing prospect indeed for a world already reeling under a serious resource crunch.

In 1989, 28 million acres of tropical forest were destroyed. Burning of fossil fuels, with the runaway deforestation spewed at least 19 billion tonnes of carbon dioxide into the atmosphere.

At this rate the global warming process may lead the average worldwide temperature to rise as much as 4.5 degree Celsius within the next 60 years.

The ozone hole over Antarctica remains alarmingly large and scientists reported evidence that a second hole was developing over Arctic.

In March 1989 the Exxon Valdez disaster in America disgorged nearly 2,62,000 billion barrels of crude oil into the limpid waters of Alaska's Prince William Sound. It was a ghastly sight of fouled atmosphere, dead birds and sea creatures and miles of tarsmeared beaches.

Earth day 1990 will highlight all these—through parades, proclamations and protests, through banners and placards and eco-fairs.

DEFENCE

Advanced copter model developed

A full-scale wooden engineering model of India's Advanced Light Helicopter (ALH) has been constructed at the Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL).

The first prototype is expected to fly later this year and series production is expected to begin in 1992. Both civil and military variants of the ALH will be produced.

The ALH, the most advanced helicopter to be designed and produced by a developing nation, will be used by the army for anti-tank, air assault and aerial mine laying missions.

The Air Force version will be used in carrying out search and rescue, aerial scout and logistic support tasks, while the navy's ALH will be equipped for anti-submarine and anti-ship missions.

The empty weight of the copter is 2,216 kg and fuel load is 1,032 kg.

The Navy's version will have a dipping sonar, possibly of indigenous designs and manufacture, and a radar capable of detecting the periscopes of submerged submarines. A colour weather radar will enable the helicopter to effectively undertake search and rescue missions. Its armament will include homing torpedoes, depth charges and Sea Eagle missiles, and it will be capable of carrying slung loads of up to 1,500 kg.

The civil version will be produced both for domestic use and export. The transport version will have a seating capacity of 12, including a two-man crew.

OIL

ONGC to implement projects worth Rs 2,700 crore

The Oil and Natural Gas Commission (ONGC) plans to implement gas projects worth more than Rs 2,700 crore during the eighth plan.

Projects worth more than Rs 750 crore have already been submitted to the government for approval. The projects planned include the kerosene recovery, dear-omatization and pyrolysis gasoline blending unit at Hazira.

Development of tatipaka-pasarlapudi structures in the onland part of the Krishna-Godavari basin in Andhra Pradesh, liquefied petroleum gas plant at Lakwa in Assam and development of mid-south Tapti and Tripura gas-fields, are also planned.

The foreign exchange savings from these projects, calculated on the basis of substitution of gas for liquid hydrocarbons, is estimated to be about Rs 1700 crore per annum over the next 10 years.

PERSONS

Ambedkar, Dr B.R.

Dr B.R. Ambedkar, the chief architect of the Indian Constitution, has been honoured posthumously

with Bharat Ratna.

He was born on April 14, 1891 in Ratnagiri village on the Konkan coast of Maharashtra. He was a brilliant Constitutional law expert. On August 19, 1947 he was appointed chairman of the Drafting Committee for the Indian Constitution.

His greatest contribution to the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe population was his advocacy of reservation for them in the government services.

Shortly before his death in 1956, he had embraced Buddhism.

Gorbachov, Mikhail

On March 15, 1990 Mikhail Gorbachov took over as the first executive President of the Soviet Union. He pledged to use the sweeping powers vested in the new office to push through radical reforms and maintain civil peace.

Born on March 2, 1931, at Privolnoe in Satavarpol region and educated at the Moscow State University, where he took a degree in law, Mr Gorbachov joined the CPSU in 1952. Before becoming the Soviet Communist Party Chief in May 1985, his activities were confined to his native region where he concentrated on improving agriculture and the life of the rural youth.

Nujoma, Sam

Sam Nujoma became the first President of independent Namibia on March 22, 1990.

He was a high school drop out who fled his country in 1960 after being arrested for political activity. He says he launched a guerilla war, for the independence of Namibia, with four guns. His South-West Africa People's Organisation (SWAPO) never controlled any territory during the 23 year guerilla war against South African rule.

Mr Nujoma is considered a shrewd and instinctive politician. He travelled the world to win support for his cause and organisation, and maintained control despite challenges to his leadership over the years.

PLACES

Hyderabad

The city of Hyderabad is celebrating its 400 years of existence in 1990. It was founded and built by Mohammed Quli Kutub Shah of the Kutub Shahi dynasty in 1590 and expanded through the years by the Moghuls, the Nizams, the British and

the free Indian State.

Hyderabad is also identified by Charminar, the magnificent rectangular edifice of granite.

The twin cities of Hyderabad and Secunderabad are the fifth biggest urban conglomeration in the country with a population of 33 lakhs.

The State government has planned to mark the fourth centenary in a big way. A massive Rs 80 crore plan has been drawn up for rejuvenation of the city.

Namibia

On March 22, 1990 Namibia became the 171st independent nation of the world and 52nd of Africa. The former German colony achieved full sovereignty after 75 years of struggle.

Namibia derives its name from the Namib desert. Its original inhabitants are the khoikhoi and San peoples and the Bantu speaking Herero.

In the 17th century, the abundant natural resources of the region attracted attention of the European nations. In 1884 Germany, under Bismark, grasped the initiative and converted Namibia, which was known as South West Africa, into a German protectorate.

During World War I, troops of the Union of South Africa defeated Germans and occupied the territory. Following the war, the country was mandated to South Africa by the League of Nations. South Africa held on to the territory even after the demise of the League and later denied any obligation to relinquish mandate to the UN.

It was only in 1972 that South Africa finally agreed to assist the UN efforts to resolve the issue of Namibian independence. But it was only in 1988 that US-mediated talks began in London that paved the way for independence.

Namibia has a population of 1,400,000 consisting mostly of blacks and mixed-race coloureds. There are 80,000 whites. 90 per cent of the people are Christians.

Official Language is English. Afrikaans is the principally accepted language for communication. German is an additional national language.

The total area is 823,168 square km. It is bounded to the west by the Atlantic ocean, to the north by Angola and Zambia, to the east by Botswana

and to the south by South Africa.

Namibia is rich in diamonds, uranium and host of base and precious minerals. Mining, agriculture and fishing account for 40 per cent of the GDP, 90 per cent of exports and the lion's share of internally generated revenues.

The Capital of Namibia is Windhoek.

PROJECTS

Indian ship for a unique project

A sophisticated Indian marine research ship is sailing towards the Caribbean islands as part of a project termed as the "first ever of its kind" undertaken by a developing country.

The project is called the Caribbean Oceanographic Resources Exploration (CORE). It will involve a 45-day cruise around the 13 Caribbean countries in efforts to map the area's marine resources.

RESEARCH

Transliteration chip developed

The Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (C-DAC), Pune, has developed a revolutionary chip capable of universal script processing.

C-DAC claimed that the GIST (Graphics and Intelligence-based Script Technology) 9000 chip will break all language barriers. The chip, for instance, would help the user to get subtitles in the language he prefers while watching a TV serial or a movie.

The chip can be used for setting up information booths in public places, like railway stations, where one can avail information in any Indian language. The farmers can use the chip for getting up-to-date land record information through the computers in their own language.

Through a transliteration facility based on this chip, researchers and students would be able to browse through all the heritage in different languages. They would also be able to view any document in the language of their choice.

SPACE RESEARCH

Human skull aboard space shuttle

According to the NASA officials the last two space shuttle secret missions carried aboard a human skull, named *Phantom* by NASA scientists.

It was flown aboard the space shuttle with 125 radiation detectors to

get an idea of what effect radiation, with the attendant cancer risk, would have on astronauts who will have to spend months or even years on some future Lunar or Mars missions.

The skull was first cut into sections, an inch thick and then arranged around the radiation detectors. It was then covered with a plastic-like substance to simulate flesh and facial features.

The *Phantom* was first taken into space in August 1989. It flew again in March 1990 aboard the shuttle *Atlantis*. The skull came from a person who had willed the body to science.

Plans are now afoot to fly a human torso aboard the shuttle to gather similar radiation information.

US launches first satellite from mid-air

On April 6, 1990 a winged rocket, released from a flying B-52 bomber, blasted its way out of earth's atmosphere in the first ever mid-air launch of a satellite.

The 15 metre privately developed Pegasus rocket was dropped from the right wing of the NASA plane as it was flying several thousand metres over the Pacific Ocean.

MISCELLANY

A nation hyphenated

Czechoslovakia's Parliament, unable to agree on a new official name for the country, has compromised by choosing two.

President Vaclav Havel had urged deputies to save the country's dignity by resolving speedily a ponderous dispute known as the "great hyphen debate".

The deputies rejected various proposals for a name to replace the "Czechoslovak Socialist Republic" in the post-Communist era.

The Slovaks' insistence on their national identity being enshrined in a hyphenated form of Czechoslovakia were originally voted down. But, after more than 12 hours of discussion and backroom negotiation, a final formula was agreed and voted through.

Henceforth, Czechoslovakia will be known as the "Czechoslovak Federative Republic" in the Czech lands of Bohemia and Moravia while in Slovakia, it will be the "Czechoslovak Federative Republic".

The all-important hyphen serves to distinguish two versions of the same name, the first being in the Czech

language and the second in Slovak.

Census—1991

In the first week of April 1990 work began on what has been described as the 'greatest administrative exercise in the world'—the conduct of the Indian Census, 1991.

The gigantic task of visiting every household, however humble, conducting a headcount and collecting essential demographic and socio-economic data on the population of a country as big as India, is mindboggling.

Over 15 lakh persons, including 12 lakh enumerators, would be involved in the actual job of visiting the houses and filling the questionnaires under such heads as gender, age, education and employment status of every individual, from the babe in the cradle to the oldest citizen of the country.

The job of 'house-listing', will cover the entire country by September 1990. It is merely a prelude to the actual census which will be carried out between February 9 and March 5, 1991.

Overseeing this mammoth work is the office of the Registrar-General and Census Commissioner of India, located in New Delhi.

The history of the census in India dates back to 1872 when the British conducted census operations in some parts of the country. However, these were non-synchronous in nature, as collection of data was not uniform and was spread over a period of many years.

Since independence, census operations have been regularised and refined with a shift in focus from mere collection of demographic data to include socio-economic variables as well.

The 1991 census covers an even greater area, since an attempt is being made to create a composite picture of the housing and employment situation as well.

Census data is of primary interest to the government, both at the Centre and the State levels, Planning Commission and others involved in policy making.

Census data also forms the empirical base for a large number of research organisations, demographers, sociologists and anthropologists. It forms a vital input in family planning, and welfare schemes and programmes for rural development.

Improve Your Word Power

1. **acerbic**: (a) brief (b) short (c) harsh (d) suspense.
2. **buckle**: (a) afford (b) defend (c) bend (d) irritate.
3. **clandestine**: (a) permissive (b) legal (c) secret (d) deadly.
4. **doughty**: (a) brave (b) boastful (c) coward (d) submissive.
5. **erie**: (a) pious (b) mysterious (c) sacred (d) lovely.
6. **fatuity**: (a) foolishness (b) intelligence (c) arrogance (d) humility.
7. **gratuitous**: (a) urgent (b) immediate (c) late (d) unnecessary.
8. **horrendous**: (a) hateful (b) hairy (c) horrific (d) ugly.
9. **innocuous**: (a) unknown (b) harmless (c) indifferent (d) careful.
10. **levity**: (a) frivolity (b) mean (c) lofty (d) low.
11. **neurosis**: (a) sleep (b) alert (c) injury (d) mental

illness.

12. **obdurate**: (a) abusive (b) desperate (c) oppressed (d) stubborn.
13. **pusillanimous**: (a) timid (b) truthful (c) helpful (d) generous.
14. **polity**: (a) state (b) district (c) organisation (d) institution.
15. **rancous**: (a) pleasant (b) hoarse (c) sweet (d) different.
16. **skulduggery**: (a) honesty (b) sacrifice (c) deception (d) hard-work.
17. **trepidation**: (a) temperature (b) worrying (c) wind-fall (d) suspicion.
18. **way-ward**: (a) perverse (b) subtle (c) victim (d) reformer.
19. **yearn**: (a) fight (b) desire (c) adopt (d) yearly.
20. **zig-zag**: (a) multi-coloured (b) straight (c) irregular (d) impossible.

ANSWERS

1. **acerbic**: (c) harsh, rude.
—The use of **acerbic** language and expressions is avoided in diplomatic parleys.
2. **buckle**: (c) bend, yield, crumple.
—The poor fellow **buckled** under the pressure of work and constant nagging.
3. **clandestine**: (c) secret, surreptitious.
—A number of **clandestine** radio stations were detected and destroyed by the American soldiers during the Vietnam War.
4. **doughty**: (a) brave, strong.
—While fighting for the honour of his country, many a **doughty** soldier was killed in the battlefield.
5. **erie**: (b) fearful, mysterious.
—Now even the **erie** experiences have become subjects of serious academic study and research.
6. **fatuity**: (a) foolishness, stupidity.
—I have lost quite a few opportunities in life due to **fatuity** of many a remark.
7. **gratuitous**: (d) unnecessary.
—**Gratuitous** speaking puts concern for my health is both **gratuitous** and **gratuitous**.
8. **horrendous**: (c) horrific, horrible.
—The **horrendous** nature of the crime is well known.
9. **innocuous**: (b) harmless.
—The **innocuous** nature of the crime is well known.
10. **levity**: (a) frivolity, lightness.
—The **levity** of the crime is well known.
11. **neurosis**: (d) mental illness.
—The **neurosis** of the crime is well known.

12. **obdurate**: (d) stubborn, obstinate.
—Indulgent parents are responsible for making their children **obdurate** and arrogant.
13. **pusillanimous**: (a) cowardly, timid.
—The last Mughal rulers were both **pusillanimous** and paralysed in conception and control of the then administration.
14. **polity**: (a) state, society.
—India is basically a democratic **polity** with strong and legally sanctioned safeguards for individuals.
15. **rancous**: (b) hoarse, grating.
—**Rancous** cries of the crows in the early hours of the morning are disturbing as well as irritating.
16. **skulduggery**: (c) deception, trickery.
—The success stories of many Indians in America are marred by the **skulduggery** and greed exhibited by a few.
17. **trepidation**: (b) worrying, fear.
—After the floods, the threat of an epidemic like **trepidation** caused great alarm and **trepidation** among the people.
18. **way-ward**: (a) perverse, head-strong.
—**Way-ward** children of affluent parents are prone to become drug addicts and violent.
19. **yearn**: (b) desire strongly.
—The story of life is that we **yearn** and pine for things that are rarely within our reach and grasp.
20. **zig-zag**: (c) irregular.
—The journey of life is beset more with **zig-zag** and irregularities.

Appointments Etc

Appointed; Elected Etc

Mikhail Gorbachov: He has been elected as the first executive President of the Soviet Union.

Petar Mladenov: He has been appointed as the President of Bulgaria.

Lawyer Patricio Aylwin: He has been elected as President of Chile. He is the first elected President since 1973 coup.

Nicholas Brathwaite: He has been elected as President of Grenada.

Herta Prouilop: She has been appointed interim President of Haiti.

Lokendra Bahadur: He has been appointed Prime Minister of Nepal.

Shivraj Patil: He has been elected Deputy Speaker of Lok Sabha.

Dr Gopal Singh: Governor of Nagaland, he has been concurrently made the Governor of Arunachal Pradesh.

Churchill Alemao: He has been elected Chief Minister of Goa.

B.B. Lyngdoh: He has been elected Chief Minister of Meghalaya.

George Fernandes: The Railway Minister of India, he will also be minister-in-charge of Kashmir affairs.

Shiv Shankar Mukherjee: He has been appointed India's first High Commissioner to Namibia.

Arjun Sen Gupta: He has been appointed as India's envoy to the European Economic Community.

C.G. Somiah: He has been appointed as India's Comptroller and Auditor General. He succeeds Mr T.N. Chaturvedi.

Resigned

General Prosper Avril: President of Haiti.

Marich Man Singh Shrestha: Prime Minister of Nepal.

P.A. Sangma: Chief Minister of Meghalaya.

Pratapsinh Rane: Chief Minister of Goa.

Distinguished Visitors

Chief Admiral Mario Porta: Defence Chief of Italy.

Mamoon Abdul Gayoom: President of Maldives.

Choi-Ho-Joong: Foreign Minister of South Korea.

Qian Qichen: Foreign Minister of China.

Yasser Arafat: Chairman of Palestine Liberation Organisation.

R. Urbain: Foreign Trade Minister of Belgium.

A.I. Lukyanov: Chairman of Supreme Soviet of USSR.

Y.M. Vorontsov: Deputy Foreign Minister of USSR.

Died

C. Madhava Reddy: Noted Parliamentarian and leader of the Telugu Desam Party in the 8th Lok Sabha.

A.E.T. Barrow: An eminent educationist, Anglo-Indian leader and former member of Lok Sabha. He was 82.

Miss Maniben Patel: Freedom-fighter and daughter of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel. She was 87.

B.T. Ranadive: Veteran Marxist leader. He was 86.

EVENTS

MARCH

12—The Soviet Republic of Lithuania proclaims itself independent.

13—The Congress of People's Deputies of USSR votes to institute an executive presidency and abolish the monopoly in power of the Soviet Communist Party.

15—Mikhail Gorbachov is sworn-in as the first Executive President of USSR.

—17 people are killed in terrorist violence in Punjab.

—Mongolia, the world's second-oldest Communist State, abandons the Communist monopoly on power.

16—Mr Devi Lal, Deputy Prime Minister of India, resigns from the Union Cabinet.

17—First free polls are held in East Germany.

18—Deputy Prime Minister, Mr Devi Lal, unconditionally withdraws his

resignation from the Union Cabinet.

19—30 persons are killed in terrorist-linked violence in Punjab.

22—Namibia awakes to freedom.

24—Last IPKF unit pulls out from Sri Lanka.

25—J & K militants kill abducted ex-MLA, Mr Mir Mustafa and a prominent Congress leader Mr Ghulam Nabi Butt.

—Hungary holds first free polls since 1945.

26—Goa and Meghalaya Ministries fall.

29—10 militants are killed in Srinagar shoot-out.

—Congress I loses majority in Rajya Sabha.

30—The 64th Constitutional Amendment Bill seeking to extend President's rule in Punjab falls through in the Lok Sabha because it failed to muster the requisite majority.

APRIL

3—40 persons are killed and at least 50 injured in a bomb explosion in Batala in Punjab.

6—Over 50 people are killed and more than 100 injured when the Nepalese Army and Police open fire on about 5 lakh pro-democracy demonstrators.

7—36 people die as violence erupts in Ahmedabad and Baroda towns of Gujarat.

8—King Birendra of Nepal announces introduction of a multi-party system.

—Peru goes to polls.

10—Mr H.L. Khera, General Manager of HMT, who was kidnapped by J & K militants from Srinagar, is killed.

—Prime Minister V.P. Singh asks the country to be psychologically prepared for an armed conflict being forced on India by Pakistan.

11—King Birendra of Nepal decides to withdraw from active politics.

—Government decides to lift the various restrictions on the operation of air taxis in India enabling air taxis to freely compete with Indian Airlines and Vayudoot.

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A LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

Dear Reader,

The response to the Special Issues of "CM" we brought out for the months of May and June has exceeded our expectations. In fact, our distributors and agents fell short of supply and we had to arrange printing of additional copies to cope with the demand. We are naturally grateful for the readers' response. These Issues were specifically designed to meet the requirements of candidates who were preparing for the competitive examinations.

We intend to bring out similar Special Issues of "CM" in the coming months so as to assist as many of our readers as possible. In this connection we invite suggestions for more Special Supplements, the nature of material our readers would appreciate most. Our earnest endeavour always is to be of the maximum possible service to our patrons, and we shall make every possible effort to comply with all suggestions for further improving our journal.

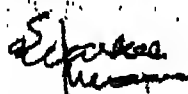
We would also be glad to receive copies of question papers set in competitive examinations. Some of our readers are already sending question papers to us and we publish comprehensive answers for the benefit of candidates.

We would also like to mention that our August Annual will, as usual, contain a carefully compiled Round-up of the past year's developments, both political and economic, besides our other features.

There is always heavy demand for our Annual Issues because of their utility for all competitive examinations. We would suggest therefore that our readers should book their copy well in time, for this bumper issue, to avoid disappointment. Preparations for this issue have already started to ensure comprehensive coverage.

With best wishes,

Yours sincerely,



International Chess-board

Super-power summits cannot always produce dramatic and highly significant accords or agreements. As long as the participants talk things over in a cordial, tension-free atmosphere, with optimism rather than suspicion writ large on their faces, it should suffice for peace-loving humanity. The latest summit between the U.S. and the Soviet Union held in Washington fits in well into this category of hopeful contacts at the highest level. The first summit between President George Bush and Mr Gorbachov at Malta last December signalled the phasing out of the Cold War; the Washington round has confirmed the trend that virtually rules out war, direct or by proxy, in the notorious centres of potential conflict—the flashpoints—in West Asia, the Indian sub-continent, Afghanistan and some trouble-spots in the Far East.

It is futile to describe the Washington summit as fruitless simply because it lacked drama and was mostly business-like, even routine. It was a relatively quiet affair, but it laid the groundwork for signing what would be a momentous accord on arms control. The approved draft treaty, when implemented, would virtually reduce by half certain types of the Big Powers' strategic and offensive weapons. There are also the agreements on the elimination of 80 per cent of their chemical weapons. After all, setting the stage for vital agreements is no less important than actual signatures on pre-arranged agreements containing well-publicised provisions. Nor would it be fair to contend that Mr Gorbachov has returned home empty-handed. He has a trade treaty and agreement on grain supplies which would please the Russians.

Even though moves and counter-moves on the diplomatic chess-board continue in subdued tones, it is gratifying that the two Great Powers have passed the stage of confrontation and are, for the present at any rate, their differences notwithstanding, have started cooperating in a number of areas. The major flashpoints, however, remain. Many of them are still in the hands of the Soviet Union. The signs of a new era are not yet clear. Some rivalries continue. The regional issues such as Afghanistan, the Indian sub-continent, Germany's membership of NATO and the Middle East are still the burning issues.

expected full accords on these thorny problems. Of course, the wide-perplexed world, including millions of Indians, would have been happy if the Big Two had evolved an agreement on Kashmir and Afghanistan. But the complexities and the hurdles are too many to be got over in a few hours of table talk. Next time, perhaps, something more tangible than verbal understandings on unresolved long-standing issues would emerge. No crisis is permanent or impossible to resolve. Time itself is a great healer of wounds.

While a war is highly unlikely over Kashmir or in Afghanistan, the West Asian region is not so immune from tensions, following the aggression by U.S.-backed Israelis, that it might be the next theatre of war. The Arab nations at their Baghdad summit, held on the eve of Bush-Gorbachov talks, echoed Yasser Arafat's warning that the disconcerting developments there could easily result in a conflagration. The responsibility for such a dismal outcome would lie mostly on the U.S. which has been supporting its protégé, Israel, even for the latter's provocative and illegal deeds. The migration of thousands of Jews from the Soviet Union to the Jewish settlements is another contributing factor to the tensions which might erupt a day.

In the adjacent Iraq-Iran region a promising development is the gesture of peace and amity made by President Saddam Hussein to its sworn enemy Iran for settling their long-standing discord. Iran was virtually the central and contestant in the long war but Iraq's intransigence has allowed false prestige to stand in the way. So an amicable settlement is likely. That would end the tensions there.

Another notable event is the understanding between the Soviet Union and South Korea with which Mr Gorbachov had a historic meeting after his Washington summit. The understanding opens up a new chapter of goodwill in the troubled Korean peninsula. It would be as if, one by one, the theatres of conflict are being transformed through a greater sense of tolerance, accommodation and goodwill.

In a smooth continuation of these winds of peace, we hope for humanity which has suffered long enough from wars, big and small, over the past century and more.

READERS' FORUM

"DISASTERS—NATURAL OR MAN-MADE"

Today humanity is floundering in a mad sea of hate and enmity with fellow creatures. Since Man has gained mastery in shaping the course of history, he is responsible for the chaos, destruction, confrontation and bloodshed on a global scale, not Nature.

There are several reasons for the present confrontations and bloodshed, the major ones being the political interest of the Government, demonstration of power to show superiority over other nations and religious bigotry. Religion itself is very pious but bloodshed because of religious reasons is the most brutal and unholy.

Religious conflicts have plagued humanity since the dawn of recorded history. In the name of religion millions have been killed, and every possible crime has been committed; and it will continue to be committed if the basic approach towards religion and humanity does not change.

In the modern context the famous dictum of Jonathan Swift, "we have just enough religion to make us hate but not enough to make us love one another", seems to be absolutely to the point.

Tilariya

Neelesh Anand

Man's incredible metamorphosis from the primeval to the modern era is beyond question. Once a denizen of the forest, man has since constructed many posh palaces equipped with all amenities for himself. His attire has changed from bark to synthetic fibres. In fact, man has ventured into areas where angels feared to tread.

Ironically, man's winning spree has culminated in a catastrophe. His insane voracity and chauvinistic character have led him to an abysmal level. The hitherto humane and considerate man has been compelled to play the roles of a despot, a dictator, a tyrant and even an adversary of mankind itself.

Nature's fury follows a certain law. Its vagaries have scientific explanations. But, unfortunately, man's mania is beyond any rational or logical definition. It is high time that the modern man exhibited broadmindedness and flexibility and made this world at least worth living, if not idyllic.

Varanasi

Jaideep Barman

CHALLENGE AND RESPONSE

"Begin and cease and then
Again begin

*With tremulous cadence slow
And bring*

The eternal note of sadness in"

The end seems to run away into the lap of future, leaving behind a trail of regrettable deeds in the form of storming wars. Will the leaders provide shoulders to the millions who will die in the battle? Will they redress the grievances of the billions thus affected? Will they be able to bear the repercussions of the haunting challenge?

Truly, to many people virtue consists in repenting for sins, not avoiding them. In fact, repose might descend to man's aponic grave but not peace as saints have claimed.

"Whence, O Lord, shall life intrepidly dance?

And fructify in every heart of man who lives in trance"

Mind you, the question is to the "Lord" above, not to those who have power on earth.

Delhi

Amita Chanana

Ms Benazir Bhutto is evidently making a desperate bid to strengthen her shaky position and appease the hawks in her country. She is using the so-called Kashmir issue in order to acquire legitimacy at home where the situation is becoming dangerous for her. She is pursuing a suicidal policy of tension-building and sabre-rattling and building up war hysteria for her survival. This is indeed shameful for the head of a democratically elected government.

Bhubaneswar

Manoj Pujari

YEAR OF SOCIAL JUSTICE

Nothing can be achieved by merely declaring 1990-91 as the Year of Social Justice. Like other days and years, it will be consigned to oblivion after holding a few meetings, national seminars and a press conference or two.

Sound economic growth, together with social justice, will remain a far cry for us as long as we indulge in widespread corruption, graft, underhand dealings and are unable to tackle effectively the hydra-headed monsters of communalism and secessionism.

Bhubaneswar

Sashikanta Panda

RECIPES FOR SUCCESS

The article is of high quality; it has the calibre of turning astray minds towards the lighted path of success.

I am sure the article will serve as a lighthouse for youth who are caught in the "deadly" storm of self doubt, aimlessness and indecision. It has given the password for achieving success—all success lies in two words, endure and abstain.

Lucknow

Vikas Srivastava

SECESSIONIST THREATS IN ASSAM

The Asom Gana Parishad Govern-

ment has totally failed to curb the flagrant activities of ULFA whose sole aim is to wipe out the AGP's supremacy in the State politics. The fate of Assam will be the same as that of Kashmir and Punjab if earnest efforts are not made to check the militants and apprise the helpless Assamese people of the impending tragedy.

Hooghly

Sanjoy Chanda

B.S.R.B. P.O.

The decision of the B.S.R.B. to reduce the upper age limit from 28 years to 26 for its competitive examination for the recruitment of Probationary Officers is unjust to those students who have a rural background or could not take such examinations seriously due to adverse factors, such as lack of library facilities, coaching facilities and late graduation (age wise). Rural India is the real India and this fact must not be ignored by our policy makers. It is well known that the percentage of direct Officer recruits in the banks from the rural areas is very low. Reducing the upper age limit will affect them considerably.

Gurgaon

Nameesh Khattar

THE "C.M."

I recently appeared in some competitive examinations and found "The Competition Master" of great help. I am a regular reader of this magazine. Current Events, Topical Essay, Paragraph Writing and other useful features, especially the Examiner's Guess Questions, have helped me a lot in the preparation for examinations.

Calcutta

Janardan Prasad Tripathi

The "Competition Master" has done a marvellous job by publishing two successive special issues (May & June) for those who are appearing in various Competitive examinations. These not only help employment seekers but also school and college students who earnestly seek knowledge. For these two issues, much else besides, the "C.M." will be regarded as the best friend, philosopher and guide for ever. We are grateful to you.

Bankura

Somnath Paul

I appreciate the inclusion of History and Geography features in "C.M.". It imparts a great deal of intensive knowledge. Also, it saves ample time. It will lend a helping hand to students and those who are appearing in competitive examinations. How nice it will be if History and Geography secure a permanent place in the magazine!

C/o 99 APO

Karan Singh Kushwaha

Please accept my hearty congratulations for publishing two (May & June) special issues of "C.M." which have proved to be a boon to thousands of readers.

Konch

Shahab Alroze

Notes on Current National Affairs

Crisis Over Bofors Report

The Swedish Government which had, after persistent efforts by the Indian authorities, supplied the unpublished part of the Bofors scandal report, upset the intentions of the National Front regime by cautioning against release of the report to Parliament and the people. Such disclosure, it said, would violate that country's code. The report, it was contended by Stockholm authorities, contained sensitive economic information collected by Bank of Sweden, the official release of which would harm important Swedish foreign trade interests.

Prime Minister V.P. Singh, explaining the position in Parliament on May 29, quoted from a reply of the Swedish Government: "If in spite of this, the Government of India goes ahead and publishes the secret portions of the Swedish NAB report, the Swedish Government will have to regard this as a serious breach of trust." That will affect the ability of the Swedish Government to transmit other classified or sensitive documents to the Government of India, as requested in the Indian note and letters rogatory of April 2, 1990. Thus violation of the Swedish request would mean that further flow of information from that country would not be forthcoming on the investigation into the kickbacks.

This development prevented the National Front Government from fulfilling its commitment to present to Parliament all the documents it obtained from Sweden. The Congress (I) seized the opportunity to secure political advantage by announcing that it would not participate in Parliament proceedings unless the Bofors papers were laid on the table of Parliament. Mr V.P. Singh alleged that the Congress (I) was attempting to "dry up" the flow of information from Sweden on the kickbacks in the Bofors gun deal by raising the demand for making public all the documents, including the secret portions of the Swedish National Audit Bureau report, on the investigations into the Howitzer deal.

Two Constitution Amendments

The Lok Sabha on May 30 passed the two Constitution amendment Bills regarding which the National Front Government had made a commitment, with overwhelming support and without any negative vote as a result of the Congress (I) deciding to extend full co-operation in getting these Bills passed. A party leader had declared a couple of hours earlier that "we are not going to co-operate with the Government unless the Bofors papers are laid on the table of the House."

The first Bill (66th Amendment) seeks to include the Land Reforms Acts in the Ninth Schedule of the Constitution to prevent them from being challenged in courts. The second (68th Amendment) seeks to give statutory status to the Commission for Scheduled Castes and Tribes.

The measure for inclusion of Land Reforms Acts in the Ninth Schedule was quickly passed with 386 members voting for and none against. The requirement according to Article 368 of the Constitution is that all Constitution Amendment Bills should be passed by a majority of the membership of the House and two-thirds of the members present and voting. The stipulation required that the Bill had to be supported by at least 263 members (half of 525).

M.P.s to Declare Assets

The assets, including land and houses, acquired by legislators during their term as members of Parliament or of the State Assemblies, have often been the subject of public discussion. In some cases the magnitude of these acquisitions have become scandalous, though it is not fair in this regard to paint all M.P.s and M.L.A.s with the same brush. Several attempts have been made by Prime Ministers and Chief Ministers to get comprehensive lists of assets owned by legislators and their close relations with a view to seeking explanations in cases of suspicion. But little follow-

up action is taken. Such efforts generally fizzle out after the initial fervour and are suspected to be politically motivated.

According to a report on May 30, Prime Minister V.P. Singh indicated that the Government will bring in a legislation making it mandatory for members of Parliament to declare their assets. He disclosed that all his Cabinet colleagues have declared their assets.

A few days earlier, several raids were conducted on the residences of former Orissa M.L.A.s, including the former Chief Minister, in a bid to discover illicit gains. That State has become notorious for disproportionate possessions of legislators. Some enquiries have already been conducted through special commissions and the CBI in order to discover them.

Directive on SCs, STs

The lists of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes are to be expanded in a bid to make them more exhaustive and thus appease more people. The Union Labour and Welfare Minister has urged the State Governments and Union Territories to consider every request and suggestion from different groups, castes and tribes for inclusion in the present lists.

According to a letter to the Chief Ministers of all States and Chief Administrators of Union Territories, the Welfare Ministry is at present considering all cases that have been recommended for inclusion of some of the castes in the list of Scheduled Tribes, and also for the inter-change of some of the present Scheduled Castes as Scheduled Tribes and vice versa.

Under Article 341, sub clause (2), and Article 342, sub clause (2), any revision of the existing lists of SCs and STs has to be made only by an act of Parliament. Before a comprehensive list for the revision of SCs and STs by way of including those genuine cases, is finalised, every request/recommendation from different groups, castes, races, and tribes has

to be considered.

Recruitment drive: In pursuance of its drive to reduce the backlog, the Union Government has decided to launch this year a special recruitment drive for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. The drive is expected to be completed by the end of October, 1990. All efforts will be made to fill the backlog of the reservations. The special drive will also be extended to public sector undertakings and banks. The recruitment drive is part of the continuing efforts to increase the representation of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in Government.

Gorkhaland Tussle Again?

As a result of certain differences between Mr Subhash Gheising, Chairman of the Darjeeling Gorkha Hill Council, and the West Bengal Government, the old tensions have been revived. After repeated negotiations, the West Bengal Government has agreed to the demand made by Mr Gheising for release of Rs 11 crore from the plan budget for 1988-89. The Councillors are said to be aggrieved over the failure of the State Government to fulfil the terms of the much acclaimed Hill Council Accord. During his meeting with the ministers, Mr Gheising had requested that a high-level meeting be held between Darjeeling Gorkha Hill Council and senior members of the West Bengal Government.

Mr Gheising had informed W. Bengal Ministers that unless a political dialogue was initiated, it would become difficult for the Hill Council to function. The relationship between the Hill Council and the State Government had deteriorated considerably in recent months.

The issues that were causing friction were: delay in the transfer of departments to the Hill Council, slow release of funds, raking up of old police cases against Gorkha National Liberation Front leaders, leading to arrests and consequent tension, and alleged acts of overt "provocation" by some sections of the administration.

Mr Gheising sounded an ominous note when he said he had dropped his original demand for a separate Gorkhaland in order to work with the Union and the State governments, which had offered the formula of an autonomous Hill Council. The Hill Council accord, he said, was not "my

idea".

Unless Mr Gheising's hands are strengthened and he can demonstrate the continued confidence of the State Government in his leadership, the Council Chairman may be forced into a situation from where there might be little room for retreat.

Mr Gheising openly admitted that in the one and a half years since the Hill Council elections, there had been a growing sense of dissatisfaction with the working of the Council within the parameters of the State administration.

More Demands for Autonomy

With a relatively weak and accommodating government at the Centre and a badly split, ineffective ruling party in Assam, more demands are being made for regional autonomy. The latest move to this end has been made by the Karbi Anglong and North Cachar Hills Autonomous State Demand Committee which has urged the Union Government to create an autonomous State comprising the Karbi Anglong and North Cachar Hills districts of Assam in accordance with the provision of Article 244(A) of the Constitution, in order to seek a solution to the problems relating to the two hill districts of the State.

The working President of the Committee declared on May 25 that only an autonomous State within Assam (not a separate State) could fulfil the hopes and aspirations and solve the economic, educational and cultural problems of the nearly seven lakh tribals inhabiting these two districts. The Committee, he said, believed in peaceful agitation for the fulfilment of their demands. But a 144-hour *bandh* in the districts in support of the demand had been called, and it was feared the agitation might go out of hand and might not remain non-violent in future.

When Meghalaya, which was earlier part of Assam, was created in 1962 as an autonomous State under Article 244 (A) of the Constitution, these two hill districts were offered the option to join Meghalaya. Meghalaya became a full-fledged State of the Union in 1972. However, the then leaders of Assam had prevailed upon the people of these two districts to remain with Assam and had promised to fulfil all their demands. These promises were never fulfilled, and with the coming in of the Asom Gana

Parishad (AGP) Government, things had deteriorated. The two districts had autonomous hill district councils in accordance with the Sixth Schedule of the Constitution, and there were some "transferred subjects" granted to them. However, these "transferred" subjects continued to be handled by the Assam Government.

All-party Drive against Communalism

Although calls for communal harmony make little impact and the fanatics ignore them completely, another attempt in this direction was made by the National Convention on Communalism and Separatism held in Delhi on May 24. It brought all the major political parties on a common platform to give a call to the people at large to meet the challenge of communalism firmly and to launch a nation-wide people's movement to counter the sinister motives of communal and separatist forces.

The Bharatiya Janata Party was conspicuous by its absence. The convention which CPM leadership had convened, had the blessings of Janata leaders. Most of the speakers were in favour of separating religion from politics. They maintained that unless this was done, communalism could not be dealt with effectively. The Convention adopted a unanimous resolution and decided to set up a National Campaign Committee to organise broadbased campaigns for holding conventions, rallies, seminars and public meetings to mobilise all men and women of goodwill to the task of preserving communal amity and national unity.

The draft resolution was moved by Janata Dal leader Mr Chandrashekhar. He called for linking the fight against communalism and separatism with the overall struggle for social and economic justice to the people. Justice Krishna Iyer opined that there was need for detoxifying the nation of communalism. Today we have the religion of hate only and not a religion of love and affection for each other, he said. A resolution passed by the convention stated that the time had come for all the secular and patriotic forces in the country to unite and resist the evil.

The resolution pointed out the growing threats to national unity and integrity posed by the separatist, divisive and communal forces in dif-

ferent parts of the country.

These activities of communal forces had started vitiating the atmosphere in leading to riots. These riots highlighted the impending danger. Never before since Independence had the threat to the secular democratic fabric of the country been so grave.

Nagaland Congress Ministry Falls

Following a split in the ruling Congress Legislature Party in Nagaland and defections (12 M.L.A.s resigned, thus reducing the party to a minority in the 60-member Assembly) a new coalition ministry comprising the Nagaland People's Party and Congress (Regional) Legislative Party and headed by Mr K. Chisi, was formed on May 15. The change means an addition to the governments backing the National Front at the Centre. The Governor did not take into account the support of 10 legislators who had been expelled by the Speaker of the House under the Anti-defection law. The S.C. Jamir Ministry which was dismissed had remained in office for 16 months.

The development was a repetition of the events of July 1988. The Congress came to power in the State after the elections in November, 1987. But the ministry failed to complete its term as 13 of its 34 legislators broke away on July 31, 1988 and formed the Nagaland Regional Congress. They aligned themselves with the opposition Naga National Democratic Party and with the support of independents formed the Joint Regional Legislature Party, staking their claim to form the government. The propriety of the Governor's action was questioned by the High Court. President's rule was imposed on the State on August 7, 1988.

For the Assembly elections of January 21, 1989, the Congress brought back Mr S.C. Jamir as the leader of the party. He had been removed from office in October, 1986, following charges of corruption and maladministration. In the 1989 elections the Congress achieved a majority by winning 36 seats. The Congress has lost the majority again, thus completing the circle.

Governments in small tribal States are generally unstable and party alignments far from durable. India's north-eastern region has in fact become notorious for frequent ministerial

changes.

The State Governor's action was severely criticised by opposition parties in Parliament. The new entity, Congress (R), has been fully accommodated in the new ministry; the Deputy Chief Minister and several ministers belong to it. On May 31, the K.L. Chisi (U.L.F.) Ministry secured a vote of confidence, as required by the Governor. The 24-member Congress Party remained absent.

Green Signal for Inter-State Project

At long last the controversial but highly beneficial 479-foot high Rs 13,000-crore Sardar Sarovar (Narmada) project was cleared by the Prime Minister on May 22. An assurance has been given that its environmental and rehabilitation aspects will be fully taken care of. A sustained agitation had been launched in recent months against the project by Baba Amte and "Narmada Bachao Andolan" activists and others who felt deeply concerned over the imminent displacement of lakhs of villagers as a result of the project implementation.

Chief Minister Patel said the people of Gujarat had the political will and the determination to execute the project in accordance with the award of the Narmada Tribunal, which was legal and binding. "The award says no change is possible without the combined consent of Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat and Rajasthan. Any attempt to digress from the award will not be tolerated", Mr Patel warned.

The project had tremendous long-term benefits. The tribals who have to scrounge in jungles for food, clad only in loin cloth, are expected to become prosperous. A sum of Rs 900 crore has already been spent on the project. The Japanese Government has decided not to provide additional funds for the controversial dam project that may force resettlement of some 90,000 residents and endanger wild life in the region, the daily "Tokyo Shibun" reported. The Foreign Ministry made the decision in view of intensifying opposition by local residents, supported by environmental groups in Japan and the U.S.A.

India's Supreme Court ruled that the disputed issue be referred to a tribunal.

Brain Drain Cost to India

According to the latest study of the outflow of qualified professionals from India, this country lost \$ 13 billion to the developed countries. The study indicates that by 2000 AD more than half a million skilled Indians will be working abroad. The number of such Indians will rise from 410,000 in 1990 to about 540,000 by the turn of the century. The study was conducted by the New Delhi-based Centre for Planning Research and Action.

Highly qualified skilled scientific and technical manpower make up 20 per cent of the Indian work force abroad, the study indicated. Thirty per cent of this work force is in the United States, 23 per cent in West Asia and about 11 per cent in Western Europe.

Benefits lost by India to these countries until 1985 amounted to \$ 8 billion to the United States, \$ 2.6 billion to Canada and \$ 2.2 billion to the U.K. Engineers make up some 32 per cent of Indian professionals abroad, while 28 per cent are doctors and five per cent scientists.

The study has estimated that the total manpower emigration during 2002-2005 will be around 67,000 as against 61,000 between 1998-2001. The intensity of the brain drain increased from 5 per cent in 1960 to about 9.5 per cent in 1985. Nearly three-fourth of the total Indian work force in the U.S., Europe and Australia is highly qualified in science and technology.

Naxalites "Parallel Govt"

The latest reports indicate that Naxalites from Andhra Pradesh and Maharashtra have crossed over into Bastar and are running a "mini parallel government" despite the fact that these outlaws number only about 100 against the police strength of 10,000. However some other sources indicate that these policemen prefer not to enter the area where the Naxalites dominate.

This was confirmed through a report submitted by an I.A.S. officer who visited the area on an assignment. According to him, the local population and government officials in the area are afraid of Naxalites who are almost running a parallel government in these areas. They have adequate resources since they get money from contractors and

businessmen. Naxalism in Bastar is viewed as a problem by the Government but the parallel administration is welcomed by the people. However, in an election which was strongly influenced by left-wing Naxalites, the B.J.P., only real right-wing party, won the maximum number of seats. The Naxalites had given a call for boycott of the elections which elicited a good response in several Assembly segments.

Most villagers contend that the policemen definitely avoid the Naxalites. "In fact, one way of driving the policemen out of your village is to tell them that a Naxalite group is around, and the policemen vanish" a former school teacher stated. The Abujmarh area is a safe haven for Naxalites and many people have even started calling it "Naxaland". But not all the officers agree that the Naxalites run a parallel government. But there is no denying their influence.

A prominent resident disclosed that an "errant" constable or a forest guard is made to crawl before a village assembly and seek pardon for his misdeeds. A forester is forced to hold his ears, and in school boy fashion asked to do 100 sit-ups. Whatever be the mode, the Naxalites' message is clear both to the villagers and the officials: "Do as you are told and we will redress your grievances."

Deepening Crisis in Kashmir

With the State administration having proved incapable of controlling the situation in Kashmir Valley and the militants holding large areas as well as the people to ransom, Kashmir has been posing a serious problem. The National Front government, bowing to persistent pressure from many political and other sources, changed the State Governor, Mr Saxena replacing Mr Jagmohan whose strict actions designed to flush out the terrorists and other militants from the region, had aroused much resentment among the concerned parties. Acts of terrorism, including killings, continue in the Valley. Some observers contend that the situation there has worsened after the exit of Mr Jagmohan. The CRPF is among the principal targets of the militants and has suffered many casualties. Pro-Pakistan and anti-Indian activity has been resumed with a vengeance, after a short break.

Supreme Court Probe Sought: A

new turn was given to the recent developments in J & K when Mr Jagmohan, the Governor, who had resigned and was nominated to the Rajya Sabha, demanded on May 30 a high-level enquiry into the causes—military, subversion and terrorism—in the troubled State.

According to him, this was imperative because the truth must prevail. All those people who are responsible for the explosive situation in the Kashmir Valley should be exposed so that the people of this country knew who were the personalities responsible for the imbroglio. The former Governor, however, has made it clear that besides the other leaders, his role as Governor should also be a part of the scrutiny by the Supreme Court panel so that the truth was brought out and the nation was told about it. At the moment, a lot of disinformation was being spread. The proposed Supreme Court panel should look into all aspects of the Kashmir problem. It should investigate as to how fundamentalist, subversive and terrorist elements had surfaced and who was patronising them. The real truth about Kashmir could come out only when all the aspects of the problem were looked into and the root cause of terrorism was located. A proper diagnosis had to be worked out so that right treatment was prescribed for the problem, he quipped.

Mr Jagmohan himself was prepared to be scrutinised for his role as Governor, provided an independent high-level Supreme Court body looked into what he had done during his tenure. When he went to Kashmir, pro-Pakistan forces had overtaken the Valley, there was total collapse of administration and the terrorists' writ ran large in the area. He had retrieved the situation from such a serious turn and "put the valley back on the path to recovery", he claimed.

India doesn't want War: "I cannot accept a situation in which the other side shakes hands with us over the table but kicks our shins from below", the Prime Minister, Mr V.P. Singh, said while referring to the possibility of Indo-Pak talks on Kashmir. "There must be some indication of ground reality of stopping help to terrorists", Mr Singh said in an interview late in May, when asked if he would like to meet his Pakistani

counterpart, Ms Benazir Bhutto.

Asked if there was a possibility of a war between India and Pakistan, the Prime Minister said, "We don't want war. We need resources for our development. But we cannot jeopardise our security."

The Government has the "sincerest" intentions of creating good relations with all its neighbours. "We have done so with Sri Lanka by withdrawing the IPKF, and with Nepal also. We are removing irritants with Bangladesh and have had positive exchanges with China. Pakistan has missed a very good chance" for enhancing peace in the region."

Asked whether the U.S. delegation which visited India recently, offered to mediate, Mr Singh said, "Mediation is unacceptable to us, and they did not push it. In fact, they went out of their way to make clear that they did not come for mediation." The Indian P.M. believes that the US has exerted pressure on Pakistan to avoid the adventurist and confrontationist path.

Gorbachov Commends India on Kashmir: An assurance that the Soviet Union will continue its support to India on the Kashmir issue came on May 28 through a telephone conversation between Mr Gorbachov and Indian Prime Minister V.P. Singh. The Soviet President expressed his full appreciation of the measures taken by India to reduce tension in the sub-continent.

Mr V.P. Singh assured Mr Gorbachov that India was committed to peace and would continue to strive to resolve all bilateral issues with Pakistan through negotiations on the basis of the Shimla agreement.

There was a brief exchange also between the two leaders on the extent of troops deployment on the border. Both Mr Gorbachov and Mr Singh agreed to keep in touch with each other to exchange views on the developing situation in the region. Mr Gorbachov assured Mr Singh that the Soviet Union was deeply interested in the unity and integrity of India. Mr Singh reiterated that India was keen on strengthening the unity and integrity of the Soviet Union.

Moscow described as "totally fictitious and absolutely unfounded" reports alleging that the USSR provided the U.S.A. with detailed information about India's preparation for a war against Pakistan.

Notes on Current International Affairs

Super-Power Summit

The second summit between U.S. President George Bush and the Soviet Chief, Mr Gorbachov, in Washington (May 30-June 2) ended without any notable success. The accord reached on the quantum of armaments, especially a 30 per cent cut in nuclear arsenals, was on the expected lines. No agreement could be reached on the controversial regional flash-points such as Afghanistan, Kashmir, Cambodia, the Middle East and Cuba. Conflicting perceptions on these kept the two leaders apart. Among the other obstacles were Germany and the issue of NATO membership.

A surprise accord on trade, a long-term grain deal (only symbolic successes) and the arms pact virtually saved what appeared to be a faltering summit. As for India and Pakistan, Mr Bush called for a dialogue. The Soviet Union, while favouring an early solution, strongly condemned national and international terrorism in Kashmir, Afghanistan and elsewhere. It blamed the U.S. for not living up to its commitments, regarding arms aid to the Afghan rebels, for instance.

The U.S. insistence on German membership of NATO and Moscow's opposition to this expectedly posed a hurdle. But Mr Bush claimed they had a lot of common ground. "We don't agree on everything, but we agree on one great truth; the world has waited long enough. The cold war must end", Mr Bush asserted. The two leaders renewed a pledge to reach a treaty this year for slashing conventional forces in Europe; they agreed on accords ordering sharp cuts in Super Power chemical weapons stocks, improving verification of nuclear weapons and testing.

Mr Bush withheld the coveted most favoured nation (MFN) trade status that Mr Gorbachov desperately wants. The trade agreement, although

Mr Bush signed it, will not be sent to the Congress for approval until the Soviet Union passes a law on free emigration.

The trade accord was the sort of symbol Mr Gorbachov needed to take back to the Soviet Union to show that he could deliver the economic help the country badly needs as it reels under food shortages and other economic ills. Mr Gorbachov felt that the agreements would advance the cause of peace because "while liberating the world from fear, we are taking steps towards a new world".

The agreement in principle covering long-range nuclear missiles settles major outstanding issues on a Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty (START) that would slash Super-Power long-range nuclear weapons by about 30 per cent. This agreement is expected to clear the way for signing a formal treaty later this year. Mr Bush and Mr Gorbachov also issued a statement renewing a pledge to conclude a pact for trimming conventional military forces in Europe. They resolved to intensify the pace of the negotiation in Vienna for reaching rapid agreements on all outstanding issues.

Accord on Chemical Arms: Secretary of State James Baker announced on May 20 that the U.S. and the Soviet Union had concluded an agreement to destroy chemical weapons and settled disputes over limits on nuclear cruise missiles.

The Soviet Foreign Minister, Mr Eduard A. Shevardnadze, disclosed that the four-day meeting with Mr Baker had given him confidence that the treaty on strategic arms can be prepared for signature before the end of this year.

The agreement on cruise missiles removed a major obstacle to a potential declaration to cut US and Soviet long-range nuclear weapons by the

Presidents, Mr George Bush and Mr Mikhail Gorbachov, at the Washington summit.

"This breakthrough should allow us to reach the important goal that we set in Malta—completing the major substantive elements of an historic strategic arms reduction treaty", Mr Bush added. The agreement on chemical weapons is designed to show the way for some 40 nations negotiating a global ban on production.

Bush's Appeal to India and Pak

Feeling deeply concerned over the tense situation in the Indian sub-continent, President Bush on May 30 appealed to leaders of India and Pakistan to seek negotiations rather than confrontation and begin talks without any pre-conditions. That was his first public comment on the disturbing situation. He coupled his appeal for peace in the sub-continent with a reiteration of US support for the Simla agreement of 1972 as "the best framework" for a peaceful solution of the dispute between New Delhi and Islamabad.

Declaring that a war would be a disaster for the people of the region and for international peace and stability, President Bush warned that it would "badly disrupt our relations with India and Pakistan". Without specifically mentioning Kashmir, Mr Bush told the new Indian ambassador: "In an age of decreasing military conflict throughout the world, it would be a great tragedy if India and Pakistan, two vital democracies, should choose to settle the differences with the gun rather than through peaceful discussion and compromise." His hope is that the U.S. should remain a helpful friend of both countries in the efforts to ease tensions.

The U.S. had called on India and

Pakistan to cease preparations for war and to reverse steps which seemed provocative to the other side. The United States has been discussing with the Soviet Union the idea of a joint initiative on Kashmir but a Soviet official discounted such a possibility. A political analyst for "Izvestia" said: "Let us take a realistic view. The Soviet Union does not have that much leverage to influence that particular situation. We are in diplomatic contact with both countries, and we are making an attempt to air our views and to understand those of India and Pakistan and increase our areas of mutual understanding."

Setback to Gorbachov

At the end of May, Mr Gorbachov received another setback when Mr Boris Yeltsin, a rebel, was elected President of the Republic of Russia, defeating the Gorbachov-backed candidate, Alexander Vlasov, the Russian Premier. If the new populist President indulges in political games, Mr Gorbachov might have to face difficulties. He has expressed concern over the development. Russia is the largest and the most powerful of the Soviet republics. Mr Gorbachov was worried over the atmosphere prevailing in the Congress of People's Deputies of the Russian Federation which elected Mr Yeltsin after three rounds of voting.

"There was need for cooperation. Instead, there was confrontation...This was of concern to all of us...This worried me", Mr Gorbachov said and pointed out that Mr Yeltsin could win only by a small margin. Mr Gorbachov, addressing the Congress, accused Mr Yeltsin of trying to break up the Soviet Union under the banner of ensuring Russia's sovereignty.

Evidently, the economic reforms announced immediately before the election of the Russian President under which grain prices were doubled significantly helped Mr Yeltsin. Citizens resorted to panic buying and hoarding of grain and whatever they could see on the emptying shelves. Mr Gorbachov's warning to the citizens that they should be prepared for a difficult period failed to inspire them. Mr Yeltsin's clever move to cash in on the unhappiness of the deputies and citizens, and go for a coalition with the conservatives paid off. But the radical reformer will have to hold the extreme forces together, which is a

difficult task.

Soviet Plan for Economic Reforms: The Soviet Government plans to hold its first national referendum soon to seek approval of an economic reform plan that could throw tens of millions of people out of work. Evidently the Government wants clear public support before starting the potentially destabilising five-year reform plan.

The reforms would double food prices on Jan 1, 1991, lead to widespread closures of inefficient factories and eventually allow private ownership of most business. A top economic aide to President Gorbachov feared the referendum plan could create "an economic panic". However, no Soviet government has ever fallen because of a referendum or a parliamentary vote. The Communist Party often has forced Prime Ministers to resign or replaced other top leaders arbitrarily.

Even if the Government falls, Soviet law guarantees that Mr Gorbachov would continue the four-year presidential term to which he was elected by the Congress of People's Deputies this year. He is also General Secretary of the Communist Party, traditionally the top Kremlin job.

Plan Highlights: Government planning of the economy would be curtailed with the creation of a "regulated market economy", with some free markets and some State-run basic industries. (1) Bread prices are to be at least doubled. (2) Other food prices, most of which have not changed since 1954, will double on January 1, 1991. (3) Retail prices to rise an average of 43 per cent and wholesale prices 46 per cent on January 1, 1991. (4) Wages, pensions and stipends would rise to cover some of the price hikes. But they would not rise enough to cover all price hikes. (5) The Government will continue to promise a job for everyone. The service, industry and agriculture will be privatised. (6) About 70 per cent of the State-owned enterprises will be converted to stock companies. Many monopolies—the mainstay of the Soviet economy—will be broken up.

Army's Ultimatum to Benazir Bhutto

The ethnic violence in Sind, involving hundreds of deaths, utter law-

lessness in several urban areas leading to lack of credibility of the Benazir administration, have together created a grave situation. Finding the situation beyond control, the Pakistan Army has reportedly issued an ultimatum to Ms Benazir Bhutto over the military's powers. The army demands military courts to try suspected terrorists and full authority to deal with the worsening chaos. The Government has however refused to establish such courts and hand over control to the military forces.

Urgent consultations have been taking place among the top leaders of Pakistan. President Ghulam Ishaq Khan has visited Karachi twice and the opposition leaders have been pressing him to dismiss Benazir Bhutto for having failed to check the bloodshed. The MQM Chief has urged the President to fulfil his constitutional obligation of protecting the MQM supporters. The PPP has held ethnic organisations such as the Mohajir Quami Movement (MQM) and the Jiye Sind, "abetted and aided by Indian agents", responsible for the riots.

Thousands of people are reported to have left Sind and taken shelter in the adjoining province of Punjab. The developments are being exploited by the Punjab Chief Minister in a bid to bring about Benazir's downfall.

Bloodiest Riots: A fresh spurt of violence rocked Benazir Bhutto's own province of Sind in May. Hundreds of people have been killed and many more injured. Marauding gunmen went on a shooting spree, the casualties on one day (May 28) alone mounting to 100 killed, including a leading opposition Senator. The towns worst affected were Karachi and Hyderabad.

The grave situation virtually became a civil war. The army was called and it repeatedly resorted to firing, causing a heavy loss of life. The strife was between the local people of Sind and the increasingly powerful Mohajir National Movement (MQM). Ms Bhutto faces mounting criticism from all quarters, including her own Pakistan People's Party, that she has done too little too late to stop the wave of kidnappings, assassinations and sniper shootings that left more than 250 people dead and 1,000 injured in two weeks in Sind province. "Organised gangs have become the order of the day. No road

in the province is safe and safety of life cannot be assured", said a representative of Ms Bhutto's Party in the National Assembly.

The British media, by and large, has refused to accept the venomous propaganda by Islamabad which seeks to blame India for the ethnic violence and continuing unrest in Sind. A report published in the "Telegraph" from its Islamabad-based reporter said snipers firing at random into bazaar crowds from motor-cycles or cars have become a terrifying feature of the political and ethnic violence in Karachi and Hyderabad in recent months. The snipers could belong to any of a number of ethnic and political groups.

The only alternative seemed to be to resort to the army which the party does not trust. Many PPP officials believe there is a conspiracy between MQM and the party to overthrow the PPP administration in Sind.

Benazir Blames India: Finding herself badly cornered and unable to give a convincing explanation for the ethnic riots, Benazir Bhutto has started accusing India of sending agents to create trouble in that province and aggravate the situation. She also charged that Indian agents were responsible for sabotage activities in Pakistan, currently gripped by a wave of bomb blasts and explosions that have left dozens of people dead. Indian infiltration began in Sind, Ms Bhutto said, and it had spread to Punjab province. "The people of Pakistan vehemently condemn the Indian designs and tactics", she asserted.

Benazir's 8-Nation Odyssey: In another attempt to muster support for Pakistan's stand on Kashmir and other issues, Ms Benazir Bhutto undertook a tour of eight Arab and other Islamic countries in the third week of May. But only three of these countries, Iran, Turkey and Syria, openly backed her against India. Earlier, she had visited Saudi Arabia which assured its support for her country's defence and nuclear programmes. She was able to restore the friendly ties which had received a setback during the Zia-ul-Haq martial law regime.

These three countries favour a solution of the dispute by implementation of the UN resolution calling for self-determination and in the spirit of

the Simla agreement. Jordan, Yemen and Libya have urged Pakistan and India to resolve the issue peacefully, though the Libyan leader, Col. Muammar Gaddafi, has declared that his country will help Pakistan "to rebel aggression if it is attacked".

Syria, a key player in West Asia politics, offered its good offices to negotiate between India and Pakistan. But the President, Mr Assad, is having his own problems. Her Cairo visit must have been a disappointment to the Pakistanis. The talks between Ms Bhutto and President Hosni Mubarak were described as "fruitful". The Egyptian leader urged India and Pakistan to resolve the Kashmir issue peacefully. During her visit to North Yemen, Ms Bhutto received an unexpected bonus of a "fatwa" from the grand Mufti who declared that there is no bar in Islam on women participation in public life. But a grand Mufti of Saudi Arabia issued a contradictory "fatwa" last year.

Benazir's party defeated in "POK": Even though Ms Benazir Bhutto had done some electioneering in Pakistan-occupied areas for the Assembly election held on May 22, her party (PPP) lost the poll to the ruling Muslim Conference led by Sardar Abdul Qayyum Khan. This came as a signal to the secessionists in Kashmir to intensify their activities. The setback came as a surprise because traditionally the voters in "Azad Kashmir" have supported the party in power in Islamabad.

Sardar Qayyum Khan declared after his party's victory that the Muslim Conference will continue fight for "liberation of the Valley". Sardar Ibrahim Khan, President of Kashmir PPP, claimed that the Muslim Conference used "violence and official machinery" to win.

One of the main reasons for PPP's defeat was the general feeling in Kashmir that the Bhutto Government was not doing enough for its cause. The opposition succeeded in putting PPP on the defensive on this subject. The PPP is seen in Pakistan as a party that wants friendly relations with India. The PPP realised that direct involvement in Kashmir may lead to a war with India. And PPP is in a no win position. Given Pakistan's history of frequent martial law, no civilian government would like a higher profile for the military than it already

enjoys.

Abuse of Human Rights: The London-based Amnesty International has severely censured the Pakistan Government for the gross abuse of human rights in that country. It has asked the Pakistan Government to take further steps to redress human rights violations which took place under previous regimes and which continue even today.

Torture, including rape, still occurs frequently in police stations; whipping continues to be a punishment for crimes; fetters are used in prisons. Imprisonment on religious grounds continues, and special courts which do not conform to international standards can impose the death penalty and try certain political offences, Amnesty International has said.

The report submitted to Ms Bhutto's Government recently says scores of persons were reportedly tortured in police stations last year, including at least eight women. The report notes that Pakistan's human rights record has improved since the change of government in 1988, but further safeguards are needed to eliminate continuing abuses.

When Ms Bhutto came to power in December, 1988, 2029 death sentences were commuted and thousands of prisoners were released in an amnesty, including many political prisoners convicted by special military courts. The Government has taken some steps to monitor police abuses but further safeguards are clearly needed. Whipping, amputation and stoning to death remain in Pakistan's statute books. Fetters are still used on prisoners, including children. Executions have ceased in Pakistan since December 1988 but the death penalty remains and there is no ban on executing minors.

Excessive expenditure on Arms: A U.N. report, directed by Pakistan's former Finance Minister Mahbub-ul-Haq, states that countries like Pakistan are spending too much on the military and too little on social programmes. Developing countries, the report says, must cut military spending which in Pakistan, Zaire, Chad and Uganda is two to three times as much as for social programmes. An agency for international development report pointed out recently that Pakistan is one of the few countries in the world

where illiteracy has gone up.

Another Crisis in Sri Lanka

After several weeks of deceptive calm in various areas of Sri Lanka, notably the north-eastern districts which had passed through troubled times, disconcerting developments are taking place in the stricken state of Sri Lanka. The Premadasa Government wooed the militants, both the JVP and LTTE, in a bid to ensure normalcy, but the Tamil Tigers have adopted a tough posture again. The "honeymoon" between the Island's Government and LTTE has apparently ended. As a result, the law and order situation has been deteriorating. After a series of incidents in which the LTTE's open contempt for the law and order machinery became evident, the Government decided to strengthen the security forces in the north and east.

The Defence Ministry ordered the navy to resume patrols in the Palk Strait, the narrow sea strip between India and Sri Lanka, to prevent further arms supplies to the Tamil militants.

The Government has also deployed additional army units in Trincomalee to provide security to Sinhala villagers who complain about increasing threats from the armed cadres of the LTTE. The Opposition believes it is naive to expect the LTTE to give up its main objective of fighting for a separate Tamil State. "The LTTE has been building underground hospitals in the north-east. It is getting ready to wage war." On the other hand, the LTTE, which earlier expressed full confidence in President Premadasa, has accused him of "wavering" and "gradually changing" his policy.

The LTTE contends that the Government had accommodated hundreds of rival EPRLF members in Sinhala military camps. It fears the Sri Lankan Government is trying to start "a war against the Tigers with the help of a fifth column". In such a situation "we will not hesitate to take up arms to protect our people and to achieve our aims". But the Government spokesman denied the charge of training EPRLF cadres. The LTTE's claim that it is the sole representative of the Tamil people should be proved through an election. But a gun-free climate has to be created for free and fair elections. As the LTTE has time and again refused to lay down arms,

it is difficult to visualise a meeting point, the officials point out.

Arab Summit Accuses U.S.

Deeply disturbed over the U.S. moves to shield Israel for the latter's aggression against the Palestinians, Arab leaders (assembled at Baghdad for a summit on May 28-30) deplored the Super Powers' failure to promote peace. They charged the United States with obstructing the West Asia peace process. The leaders announced financial aid for Jordan and Palestinians, who are most vulnerable to the Israeli aggression and expansionist policies.

They dropped their proposal to send a joint letter condemning the settlement of Soviet Jews in Israel to the Super Powers meeting because of differences over its contents and how strongly it should be worded. The PLO calls for sanctions against countries supporting the immigration of Soviet Jews to Israel.

The Arab leaders also decided to honour a pledge, made two years ago, to give the Palestinians \$ 42 million per month to support their uprising. The summit called for collective action to safeguard the rights of Palestinians and protect the national Arab security.

The influx of Soviet Jews to Israel for resettlement in the occupied Arab territories posed a threat to Arab security, the Arab leaders said in a communique. They demanded U.N. intervention to ensure that Jewish emigrants are not settled in the occupied Arab areas by Israel.

The summit denounced the US Congress for recognising Israel's claim to Jerusalem as its capital and insisted that the religious status of the occupied Holy City must not be infringed.

The 21-member Arab League Summit, called at the PLO request to discuss the Soviet Jew Influx into Israel, was boycotted by Syria and Lebanon. The sharp tone of the communique indicated that hardliners led by Iraq's President Saddam Hussein had their way. The summit chiefly blamed the US for Israel's policy of "aggression, terror and occupation", Washington, the communique said, gave Israel political cover, financial aid and military support.

Mr Saddam Hussein, who in-

creasingly sees his country as a counter-weight to Israel, received from the conference the backing which he had wanted for his arms policy.

Iraq-Iran Peace Move

The 22-month long stalemate between Iran and Iraq may soon end as a result of a bilateral summit offer made by Iraq's President Saddam Hussein through a cordially worded letter addressed to "Brother Rafsanjani" (Iranian President). This offer of talks to an arch enemy country is regarded as a significant development in the Middle East. It was Iraq which invaded Iran in September, 1980. Both sides agreed nearly two years ago to end the war.

Mr Saddam Hussein's letter proposes three points to break the current stalemate. Teheran is said to have indicated its willingness to accept the pact signed by Mr Saddam Hussein and the Shah which had settled the Shatt-al-Arab water dispute. Iraq launched its war against Iran after Mr Saddam Hussein had abrogated the Algiers accord on the plea that "it was unequal and therefore unacceptable". Mr Saddam Hussein has proposed direct, face-to-face talks, without any aides, in Mecca or any other Muslim country. As a corollary to this letter, Iraq has also stopped anti-Iranian propaganda.

The Iran Government has responded positively. Mr Rafsanjani in his reply focussed broadly on three points. He has ruled out a summit for the time being, saying that, to begin with, the talks should be at a lower level, and then gradually move up to the level of a summit. Second, any talks between Iran and Iraq must be within the framework of the U.N. Security Council Resolution 598, which was passed unanimously in July, 1987, and which was the basis under which Iraq and Iran have agreed to a cease-fire in their long-drawn war. Finally, Mr Rafsanjani is said to have stated in his letter that the venue of any direct talks between Iran and Iraq must be neutral. Iran prefers Islamabad to Mecca for this purpose.

Reunification of Yemens

At long last the two separated parts of Yemen have united and a new Yemen has emerged, marking the start of a new era. The proclamation of the

unified Republic of Yemen is a reversal of a long history of internecine conflict. The Southern Yemen People's Republic was proclaimed in 1967, with its capital at Aden. Its name was changed to People's Democratic Republic in 1970. Yemen (Aden) has since been ruled by Marxist governments, closely associated with the Soviet Union. A non-aligned country, the Yemeni Republic has simultaneously a 20-year friendship treaty with the Soviet Union as well as a tripartite military arrangement with Saudi Arabia and the U.S. The two countries, Yemen (Sana) and Yemen (Aden) have constantly reiterated their intention to unite despite two wars and bitter suspicion of each other.

Negotiations for unification began in the early 1980's. In 1988 a Higher Yemen Council was established to finalize the constitution of a United Yemen. It was envisaged that Yemen (Sana) and Yemen (Aden) would unite by November, 1990.

Triumph of Democracy in Burma

The first free general elections for the Burma (Myanmar) National Assembly held on May 27 resulted in a surprise but wholly welcome verdict—triumph of democracy—despite the severe constraints imposed by the autocratic military junta (headed by Gen Saw Maung) which felt confident of its own victory. In the event, the main opposition party, the National League for Democracy (NLD) emerged triumphant and was well poised to form the Government. The NLD fielded some 450 candidates advocating the establishment of democracy. But the party's secretary-general, Ms Aung San Suu Kyi, who is the daughter of Myanmar's independence hero, Mr Aung San, was barred from running in the election and had been put under arrest. The opposition was believed to have won over two-thirds of the seats across the country.

But the military leadership made it clear that power would be handed over to the winners after parliament agreed on a new constitution. Thus the poll was not, strictly speaking, one for immediate switch of power from the ruling clique to the people but only for a constituent assembly which would draft a new constitution in place of the one the Council had suspended in 1988. The process may take two years or so. The newly

drafted constitution would be put to a referendum. Fresh elections would then be held. Meanwhile the military group will continue to rule!

New Plan for Afghan Stalemate

Despite the efforts made by certain Powers, the stalemate in Afghanistan continues. Two points are however clear: Dr Najibullah is very much in power and the efforts of Pakistan and the U.S., along with the occasional raids by the rebels and guerrillas to dislodge him, have not succeeded. The U.S. and Pakistan authorities have apparently accepted the reality which is out of tune with the strategy they had worked out. On May 27 Dr Najibullah sent fresh proposals for ending the Afghan conflict to US and Soviet leaders for discussion at the Superpower summit.

The Kabul administration is prepared to hold a referendum on a package of proposals to end the civil war which has cost over a million lives since 1978. Dr Najibullah told a national assembly, or Loya Jirga, that both Afghan rebels and government troops should observe a "cooling off period", clearing the way for a truce and elections under U.N. supervision. He also renewed a call for an international conference on Afghanistan, including all countries directly and indirectly involved in the conflict. Under his proposal the warring factions could agree not to use "certain types of weapons" during the cooling off period. The militant factions need not give up territory under their control, while the Government would have control of the armed forces.

Dr Najibullah called for peace talks with rebel leaders based in Pakistan and their field commanders inside Afghanistan, guaranteeing them total security and anonymity if they so desired. The U.S. has rejected the new plan. So the chances of peace in the troubled country are dim.

Elections Likely this year: Further proof of the assertion that the Najibullah regime in Kabul has stabilised its position came through the disclosure, made by the ruling party towards the end of May, that Afghanistan will soon begin drafting a new secular democratic constitution and also conduct its first ever free and fair elections based on universal adult franchise. These decisions are ex-

pected to materialise during this year. Simultaneously, Afghanistan will also witness the first ever national congress of its ruling People's Democratic Party since its inception 25 years ago. These events would constitute a political watershed in the current history of the war-torn republic of Afghanistan.

Dr Najibullah has already ended the three-year old state of national emergency which he had imposed in 1987. This would facilitate the drafting of a new constitution, drawing up a comprehensive framework for the forthcoming elections and for conducting the party's national congress.

Dr Najibullah has chosen an experienced though non-party politician, Governor of the western Afghan province of Herat, as the new Prime Minister who may play a cardinal role in the negotiations between the PDPA-led administration of Afghanistan and the field commanders of the feuding Mujahideen.

Spectacular Verdict of Romanians

Conforming to the forecasts, Romania's interim President Iliescu won a sweeping majority in the May 20 general elections and thus became the country's first popularly elected Head of State. Iliescu's Government was being criticised for its links with the ousted communist regime. The voter turnout was high—over 75 per cent; official sources claimed that the voters exceeded 90 per cent. As a result, Iliescu's ruling National Salvation Front secured 66 per cent of the parliamentary seats.

The verdict has shocked the anti-communists in the country because Iliescu was a close associate of the former ruthless dictator, Nikolai Ceausescu. Romania was the last East European country to throw out a Communist regime.

These were the first free elections to be held in the country in the past five decades. The people rejected the anti-communist Liberal Party and the National Peasants' Party, the two rivals of the ruling National Salvation Front which has dominated the country's political life after the violent revolution in December last that led to the execution of the despised Mr Ceausescu and his wife.

Romania has thus upset the trend set by East Germany and Hungary,

both of which ushered in right-centre governments by voting against the old communists or dissident communists. The post-election Romania has posed a challenge to the Western nations committed to assist democratic East European countries. The election campaign was marked by character assassination rather than a general debate on issues.

Birth of New Era in S. Africa

As a result of the impressive, democratic and unambiguous statements he made during his tour of nine West European capitals in the latter half of May, Mr F.W. de Klerk, South Africa's President, was able to win much goodwill. He declared at his press conference in London "We are all born equal. Racism is bad because it is a form of discrimination in itself. We are against that. Also apartheid is the allocation of rights and privileges on the basis of membership of a specific race and we are against that. That is what we have undertaken to eliminate in South Africa".

He announced some more liberalising measures in South Africa, including the abolition of apartheid in State hospitals. South Africa did not seem to be Europe's pariah, if one noticed the way Mr de Klerk was received in these capitals.

At the Dublin summit of the European Community it was clear that European consensus is shifting against sanctions. In Britain the South African President received praise from Mrs Thatcher during their talks. She appreciated the "substantial" moves he has made towards abolishing apartheid. Mr de Klerk disclosed that the Separate Areas Acts, the Lands Act and the Group Areas Act were due to be phased out in 18 months. Mrs Thatcher reiterated her anti-sanctions view and offered help in South Africa's move to win world recognition. Mr de Klerk described Mrs Thatcher as a "very special friend of South Africa".

At a press conference, Mr de Klerk declared: "There is no turning back, South Africa stands on the verge of another very exciting change and plans radical constitutional reforms. We are inexorably moving on to the birth of a new South Africa." He wants plenty of foreign investments.

Britain was the first in lifting some of the voluntary sanctions as soon as Mr Mandela was released. Mrs Thatcher feels Mr de Klerk needs to be encouraged by rewarding him for what he has done so far. Before coming to Britain, Mr de Klerk had visited France, Greece and Portugal.

Pact on Cambodia Signed

The latest effort to end hostilities in sorely troubled, faction-ridden Cambodia and restore normalcy, or at any rate set the stage for it, was made by the resistance leader Prince Norodom Sihanouk and the Cambodian Prime Minister, Mr Hun Sen, who signed a communique calling for an end to the fighting. But they did not declare a formal cease-fire in the 11-year old civil war that has cost thousands of lives. The powerful and notorious Khmer Rouge guerrillas, who are part of the three-party rebel coalition which the Prince heads, remained absent.

The communique urged all factions to refrain from hostile and offensive acts. There should be an effective standstill, though a cease-fire would have to await a formal agreement between the warring parties. An accord on forming a Supreme National Council is needed for that purpose.

The National Council should include representatives of the Resistance Coalition, and the Phnom Penh Government. A UN role is envisaged in supervising the withdrawal of foreign troops from Cambodia, end of military supplies and implementation of a cease-fire agreement.

Despite the peace moves, heavy fighting is continuing in several areas and guerrilla groups recently launched offensives in areas around Phnom Penh, Cambodia's capital.

Nepal's Goodwill Gesture to India

The purchase of a considerable quantity of sophisticated weapons by the Nepal Government from China had led to much misunderstanding between Kathmandu and New Delhi. The Government of India had protested against the deal which, it rightly pointed out, violated the Indo-Nepal Treaty of 1950.

As a gesture of goodwill and accommodation, the new Prime Minister of Nepal, Mr K.P. Bhattarai, announced on June 6 that further

supplies of Chinese arms had been suspended indefinitely. The last consignment of weapons under the arrangement made by the previous Government of Nepal has yet to be received.

It is reliably learnt that there is no defence pact as such between Nepal and China. Mr Bhattarai reiterated before leaving for Delhi that natural friendship existed between Nepal and India because of a common culture, history, and geography. He felt confident that his three-day goodwill visit to Delhi would prove fruitful and no problem between the two countries would remain unsolved. A comprehensive trade and transit treaty would, however, be signed only by the full-fledged Government to be formed after the elections due in April next year. Only an interim treaty and a working arrangement are expected to be agreed upon for the present.

New Constitution: After prolonged consultations with groups representing various viewpoints, the new Nepal Government headed by Mr K.P. Bhattarai set up on June 2 a commission to draft a new constitution for the country within 90 days. Earlier, the King had set up a commission which was dissolved following protests from all sections of the people. The new commission retains four members of the dissolved body, notably Mr Upadhyaya, a sitting judge of the Supreme Court, as chairman.

Mr Suryanath Upadhyaya, a government official, has also been retained as member secretary of the commission which has nine other members.

The present constitution, which underwent three major amendments since 1967, had most of its provisions suspended after the emergence of the recent pro-democracy movement. Thirty years ago, King Mahendra had dissolved parliament and dismissed the first-ever democratically elected government of B.P. Koirala.

The draft will go to the Cabinet for approval. Many Nepalese want the present Constitution scrapped altogether and have it replaced by an Interim Act mainly because it still vests the sovereignty in the King through whom all legislative, executive and judicial powers emanate. The King has surrendered most of these powers to the new Government.

ECONOMIC SCENE

CHALLENGES FACING AGRICULTURE

Q. Discuss briefly the problems of Indian agriculture to which the new government should address itself.

Ans. The new government's reiteration of the election pledge to earmark about half of the public sector outlay of the plan for agriculture and rural development is a reassurance to the rural electorate of its sincerity, integrity and credibility.

Whether the fulfilment of the commitment will prejudice the interests of the secondary and the tertiary sectors of the economy or not falls outside the purview of the present discussion. However, one cannot but welcome the emphasis on the development of the farm sector which continues as the major prop of the Indian economy.

Since the dawn of Independence, India has taken rapid strides in bringing about improvements in agriculture which in the pre-Independence regime was primitive in character. The foodgrains production has more than tripled within a span of 40 years. A record production of 172 million ton in 1989-90 as against 50 million ton in 1950-51 is indeed a laudable achievement.

The Green Revolution, ushered in through the new cultivation technique of seed-fertiliser-water, has made this possible. Not only has the foodgrain production been increased but buffer-stocks of nearly two million ton have been raised. This has enabled the country to keep inflationary pressures under check and also meet drought situations in 1979-80 and 1987-88.

This success story of the economy has been somewhat overshadowed by certain failings in agricultural sector. The shortfalls in oilseeds and pulses have been of great concern. The import of edible oils to make up for the shortages in supplies has strained the foreign exchange reserves. The low output of pulses has caused

deficit supplies and nutrition, especially, for the vegetarian population.

The increasing number of marginal holdings of less than one hectare has posed a challenge. Their number shot up from 19.8 million in 1961-62 to 44.5 million in 1976-77 and to 50.9 million in 1980-81. The small holdings act as disincentives to apply the new farming techniques for increasing production. Consequently, the small and marginal farmers remain ever poor. In the ultimate analysis, it means poverty in perpetuity and also widening of the gulf between the rich and the poor farmers. This demonstrates how growth has led to greater inequities and not social justice which was (and still is) the primary objective of planning. It should not be misconstrued that policies and programmes for growth should be abandoned.

It may be pointed out that at present the Green Revolution is confined to a few regions: mainly the Punjab, Haryana and West Uttar Pradesh. About seventy per cent of the country is devoid of the benefits of the Green Revolution because of lack of, or inadequate, irrigation facilities. The inter-regional inequalities have exacerbated and the objective of balanced growth of all regions has receded.

It follows that for the harmonious growth and to step-up foodgrain production, it is necessary to make the small-sized holdings economically viable and provide them with adequate irrigation facilities or else resort to dryland farming. These changes are long- or medium-term ones and therefore no immediate results can be expected.

It is also to be noticed that instead of concentrating on large holdings in well-irrigated regions for attaining higher production, if productivity of small holdings is enhanced, it will help achieve growth with equity which is the central objective of planned development.

Simultaneously, with the escalation in productivity of large and small

land holdings, its sustainability over a long period of time must be ensured. This would require environmental development consistent with agricultural growth. The Union government has created a ministry for environment which reflects its concern for the restoration and maintenance of ecological balance.

What is required is to see that the backward areas do not remain backward. The remedial steps that need be taken are: (a) Intensification of efforts, backed by strong political will, to enforce land reforms so as to reduce the number of landless agricultural labourers; to confer security of tenancy on the tenants; ensure fair rent and free transfer of land; to expedite consolidation of land holdings in order to make them economically viable. (b) Increase irrigation facilities by undertaking major as well as minor irrigation schemes and completing the on-going projects. (c) Provide the necessary inputs, including credit, seeds and fertilisers etc. (d) Launch extension service and (e) Disseminate scientific and technical know-how for the modernisation of farming.

Dr V.K.R.V. Rao, National Professor, has expressed anguish at two developments: the move to increase agricultural exports and the support given to the food processing industry. Neither of these measures will ameliorate the lot of the poor and small farmers constituting the majority of the cultivators.

HUMAN BOMB, BEWARE!

Q. "The world population in the next four decades would be eight billion and India's double or triple which could spell its economic doom" warns the Worldwatch Institute in Washington. Discuss the implications of the statement and suggest an action plan to avert the cataclysm.

Ans. The next census of India's population—the last in the twentieth century—is due to be held on March

1, 1991, and is thus only a few months away from now. India will then have a population of 837 million according to the projections in the perspective plan embodied in the seventh plan document. In the last (1981) Census the population stood at 685 million. This means an addition of 152 million during the 1981-91 decade. Over a longer period of time, say the entire century, the country's population will increase by 748 million from 238 million in 1901 to 986 million (estimated) as on March 1, 2001. This is a staggering increase! In the first half of the century, the addition in population was only 123 million, but in the second half it would be as high as 625 million. Should the trend continue for two or three more decades (which is not improbable), the population may double or triple as projected by the Washington-based Worldwatch Institute (WWI), despite the intensive family planning programmes since the commencement of the first five-year plan. We have thus failed to contain the unbridled growth of population. India adds as many as seventeen million mouths in a year.

Does a galloping population pose a threat to the economy? There are two views on this long-debated problem. The optimists argue that the population growth is a net contributor to economic growth. Population is, like any other factor of production, a resource and the larger is its size, the more are the economies of scale in production and consumption. The population pressure and scale economies together stimulate technological innovation and institutional change. For example, increased population density induces more labour-intensive activities both in agriculture and industry.

Higher population growth is thus an asset.

It is not so according to the Malthusian theory which says that as population impinges upon the fixity of natural resources e.g., land diminishing returns result in.

It need to be recognised that the labour productivity can be increased with the application of technology and innovative devices which factor was ignored by Malthus. Also, the size of the population can be controlled by contraceptive devices. The Western Europe did it even in the 19th century. And now "more developing

countries will do as China has done and as Thailand is doing: Cut their population growth rates in half in a matter of years", says the WWI.

If the drastic steps are not taken to curtail birth rates, the developing countries would have to cope with food and fuel shortages as well as land degradation in the next century. Such a development can be mitigated provided all the nations agree to combat environmental degradation. It is gratifying to recall that the government of India has already created a ministry of environment. In addition, family planning programme needs to be intensified to achieve a drastic drop in the birth rate.

It is a formidable task in which the contribution of the individuals is crucial. The government can play the role as a catalyst by giving incentives to eligible couples. In India the number of such couples is likely to escalate to 174 by 2000 A.D. as against 139 million in March 1989. To cover them all would mean more than three times as many as at present during the next 11 years. In other words, more than five times the total number of acceptors during the last 38 will now have to be covered in less than one-third as much time.

Apart from the curtailment of the birth rate, literacy campaign throughout the country need to be launched. Simultaneously, minimum needs be provided to the people.

The eighth plan must face the stark realities that now stare us in the face and formulate a population policy for effective family planning.

SCRAP GROWTH CENTRES?

Q. The growth centre strategy is not appropriate for India. Comment on this statement.

Ans. The growth centre strategy was adopted in November 1989 with the twin objectives of accelerating the pace of industrial development and reducing the regional disparities. The growth centres had to act as magnets for industries to be set up in the backward areas.

The government of India decided to set up in phases 100 growth centres in the various States. To begin with 50 such centres were approved and the number was raised to 61 just before the elections. Each growth centre was to be allocated funds upto

Rs 25-30 crore in a time-span of five years for providing infra-structure: power, water, banking and telecommunication facilities. The idea was large industrial firms will establish themselves at the growth centres and the surrounding areas will be influenced by the "central" firms.

The growth centres are essentially urban-oriented and promote industrial growth. India is primarily an agricultural country. The growth centres are therefore not appropriate. The growth centres were intended to be a substitute for the central investment subsidy (CIS) which was offered to intrepid enough entrepreneurs who would not venture investment in backward areas.

The growth centre concept was invented to reduce the subsidy burden and to develop infra-structure in backward regions to attract entrepreneurs. But was it a sufficient condition? What is really important is the decision about the location of the industry.

The central weakness of the growth centre concept was financial. While each growth centre was envisaged to cost Rs 25-30 crore, the more realistic bill would average around Rs 40 crore per centre. It is feared that the funds provided for the growth centres may be mis-utilized. The substitution of growth centres for the CIS scheme (which was allowed to lapse on September 30, 1988) is costly. The total cost of 100 growth centres would be about Rs 2500-3000 crore compared to the CIS burden of barely Rs 200 crore. As a matter of fact, even this order of expenditure would be inadequate to provide infra-structural facilities which are enough for the impulses of development to be diffused to the areas surrounding the growth centres.

The growth centres as they develop will result in a "duality" in the economy. The industry at the growth centre will be developed but the peripheral areas may not be affected.

In view of the controversy about growth centres versus the CIS scheme, the National Front government has decided to take a critical look on growth centres, and is examining the question as to why the CIS scheme (or its variant) should not be brought back in place of the growth centres. This is the demand of the private sector also.

Regionalism and Nationalism

A "region" may be defined as an area or division without definite boundaries or characteristics. It is a geographical abstraction. The word "nation" (an even greater distraction) has a racial or ethnical meaning. In this sense a nation can be taken to mean a people welded together in a society by ties of blood-relationship. Some political commentators do not however regard common descent as an essential element. To them, nation is "a population of an ethnic unity inhabiting a territory of geographical unity".

Regionalism implies loyalty, attachment and devotion of a people to their region because of a common language and literature, common traditions and history, and a common consciousness of rights and wrongs. So the basis of nationalism is a common or general consciousness and cohesion which serves as a cementing factor. Nationalism is the binding factor; it has led to the development of the well-known "my country, right or wrong" concept. It is based on local factors—the local surroundings, the familiar land and people.

Patriotism and love of one's country are universal virtues. Nationalism has throughout history been an impelling force that has prompted many movements, social, economic and even political. Any nation that has a rich tradition of cultural and other values, a sense of self-respect and has commendable goals will be wholly nationalist in outlook, with the patriotic fervour colouring all their activities.

Nor do the values a nation cherishes, and the rights of the individuals constituting it, get eroded with the progress of industrialisation because it represents an essential part of the mental and spiritual equipment of all rational and responsible men and women. Every true citizen cherishes his country's traditions and realises his country's manifold problems. For this reason, nationalism never becomes an obsolete or ir-

relevant concept. It is a persistent and unmitigated quality never to be abandoned or diluted.

In his Autobiography Jawaharlal Nehru said "nationalism is essentially an anti-feeling, and it feeds and fattens on hatred and anger against other national groups and especially against the foreign rulers of a subject country. Nationalism is regarded as a natural and healthy growth; in fact for any subject-country national freedom must be a dominant urge. The nationalist idea in India, as elsewhere, has been deep and strong, especially during the long freedom struggle. If we give up our basic traditions and lose our worries, we become rootless.

An equally great danger is that while nationalism in general is a healthy cementing and inspiring force, it becomes restrictive and reactionary after the country has been liberated from a foreign yoke. In Asia, in particular, a movement will succeed or fail in the measure that it associates itself with the deep-seated urge of nationalism.

In a contest between nationalism and internationalism it is nationalism that wins. Internationalism of course has a strong appeal for people who are well educated and hence have a broad vision. But the nationalistic fervour triumphs most of the time, just as the urgency of attaining immediate materialistic ends always scores when the alternative is a distant, ephemeral, elusive goal that is attractive and advocated by philosophers and intellectuals confined to their ivory towers. The universal man, it has been rightly said, is a faceless, bloodless ghost, an empty name that has no concrete feature or content.

Both regionalism and nationalism imply the concept of loyalty, attachment and commonness. But loyalty, which is generally a virtue, also becomes a vice. While discussing the subject "Citizenship of the World", Bertrand Russell wrote: "Loyalty may be defined as willingness to make personal sacrifices for the good of a

group of which one is a member." Men can, and do, feel loyalty to many different kinds of groups, of which family, nation, race, class, party, creed, are the most important. The first three are biological, the last three mental. Buddha, Christ and the Stoics taught that we ought to feel loyalty to all mankind, but so far their teaching has had little effect.

As a result of inadequate understanding, however, several persons in many countries and regions often associate nationalism with a narrow, even biased outlook. Limited vision and petty-mindedness that is wholly unpardonable. The earnest advocates of a broad vision, of a sense of universality and of an extension of outlook beyond a country's frontiers wrongly assert that there is an intrinsic conflict between regionalism and nationalism and between nationalism and internationalism.

The belief that nationalism dictates isolation from the rest of the world is totally unwarranted. For many years the people of Burma, for instance, kept themselves aloof from the international community in the erroneous belief that contacts with the outside world would taint and possibly ruin their ancient culture. Ultimately they realised their mistake. Living in total isolation befits only the saints, sages and men devoted wholly to spiritualism. One can be a true nationalist as well as a good internationalist as, for example, Jawaharlal Nehru was. No conflict or incompatibility is involved in the two concepts, either in theory or in practice. This is particularly evident in a progressive civilisation on which the latest advances in technology especially in communications have created a new kind of inter-dependence.

According to internationalists, in the tension-ridden world of today it is very important to generate new loyalties which transcend the boundaries of national States. But can loyalty be extended from the national State to a supra-national group of States? The problem is difficult, both po-

and psychologically.

Loyalty has an instinctive basis: it seems to be natural to human beings to view members of their own herd with feelings that are friendly in the absence of specific causes of hostility, and to view everyone else with feelings that are hostile, in the absence of special reasons for friendliness. In addition to the instinctive grounds of loyalty, there are others that have a more or less rational basis. The chief of these are common interests and common beliefs. Among groups generated by the former are pirate crews, invading armies, and companies for the development of backward areas; among the latter, political parties and religious sects. But loyalties of this sort are not very secure under stress, unless they have a backing in instinctive loyalties or a very obvious and compelling appeal to self-interest. It is this that causes the difficulty in generating a supra-national loyalty.

The concepts of nation and of the nation-State are allied to the forces of regionalism and nationalism. A nation may not be sovereign while a State always is. The practical forms which their ideas acquired are of comparatively recent origin, not more than three hundred years old. But they do highlight the problem of human identity itself; the problem is only partly transferred to yet another collective entity. Tackling this problem requires another value as regards human personality which is described independent of the identity which the group, the nation and the State seek to give to the individual. The terms "nation" and "State" are not however synonymous. The United Nations is actually an international organisation of sovereign States and not nations. A nation cannot be identified with a State. A mere organisation of people under one government does not make them a nation.

Regional Conflicts: Armed and other types of conflict in the second half of the 20th century have occurred in several continents and even between countries belonging to different continents because of rivalries, unadjusted territorial claims and the unpublicised backing of the mighty powers, notably the U.S.A. and the Soviet Union.

Regional conflicts naturally differ

in the pattern, the content, the causes and the duration. But most of them emanate from local issues and on local soil as a result of inner national or regional contradictions. There are different causes, the colonial past, the frequent expansionist policies and the ethnic clashes. According to international experts, regional conflicts are of three types.

First, those occurring between systems—when class contradictions and the struggle between the two socio-economic systems are being resolved on a regional or national level. Such conflicts as, for instance, on the Indo-Chinese peninsula in 1964-1973 or in Korea in the 1950s, are dangerous for universal peace; they directly or indirectly involve the two systems with commitments to their allies, and their potential for widespread destruction.

The second type of conflict is caused by the contradictions between imperialism and the national liberation movement. A graphic example of such a conflict was furnished (until recently) by the situation in South Africa and the problem of granting independence to Namibia.

The third type belongs to the category of inter-imperialist and inter-capitalist conflicts, between developing countries as well. They reflect the contradictions between the "old" and "new" capitalism or bear the imprint of the process of national consolidation, of national communities in the making. Such conflicts, as for instance, the Iranian-Iraqi conflict, the Indo-Pakistani conflict of 1971, the one connected with the formation of the Republic of Bangladesh, the Indonesian-Malaysian confrontation of 1963-1966 and others, are primarily of local character. By complicating the general international situation, they endanger universal peace in case of involvement in them of the great, especially nuclear powers. Regional conflicts have also occurred in the past two decades in Central America, Latin America, the Far East (Kampuchea). They create dangers of armed clashes and have in fact caused many major and minor wars.

Regionalism has been much in evidence in France, West Germany, Spain where the tyranny of the major group has caused adverse reactions. An expert on the development of

regionalism wrote some time ago: "France is the classic land of political unity, and administrative centralisation. It is also the classic land of regionalism. Regionalist movements in other countries have taken France as an example."

Regionalism in India: Before and after the formation of linguistic States in India there have been, and still there are, regional conflicts on various issues. In fact, nationalism has been at a discount and regional forces have dominated the social and political scene. This is evident in the emergence of more and more regional parties and the inability of the national parties to spread their influence all over the country. The political fragmentation and the splitting up of loyalties apart, there is the disconcerting emergence of terrorism as a manifestation of regionalism and as a protest against the allegedly discriminatory and inequitable policies of the Centre. The Telegu Desam in Andhra Pradesh, the DMK in Tamil Nadu and the AGP in Assam are some outstanding examples of regional entities. The strong and constantly reinforced regional forces have been responsible, at least in part, for the baffling phenomena of terrorism and militancy in Punjab, Kashmir and in the North-East region, Assam being the latest example (Bodos' violent activities). In all these disturbed areas there seems to be a sense of desperation among the malcontents many of whom have adopted the cult of the gun under the erroneous belief that they are thus promoting their regional cause and—more important to them—protecting their distinct identity. To them, all the stress on nationalism has little meaning.

Several sociologists have further drawn the conclusion that religious fundamentalism of the Sikhs in Punjab and of the Muslims in J & K are also manifestations of regionalism as against forces of nationalism. The latter should predominate over local and regional compulsions but it is a pity that this is not so. In a genuine, full-fledged democracy, regional and other restrictive forces should not be permitted to check the development of a broad, liberal outlook. These forces are in a way a blot on democracy. But there is always the possibility of a healthy adjustment; this is in fact what the democratic concept stands for.

"Man does not live by bread alone"

Hunger and food, thirst and water, progeny and procreation—they have remained the primary needs of mankind ever since the first Man and the first Woman came into being on the blessed Earth. With the passage of time, slowly but surely, Man came out of the confines and compulsions of his physical, biological and physiological urges so as to make a mark of his distinct and distinguished contribution to the smothering process of progress and prosperity, in fields other than bread and butter. While peeping and piercing into the murky layers of history, one can surmise and suppose the canny and cruel challenges, both natural and unnatural, which he must have encountered—unarmed, unprepared and unaided. Once he was able to attain near supremacy over the inimical forces around him, he realised to his ecstatic and blissful destiny that "man does not live by bread alone". And thus started the solemn saga of Man's accomplishments in the domains of Art and Culture; Music and Dance; Epics and Classics; Metaphysics and Mysticism; Religion and Science. The pursuit in these soul stirring vistas and visions of excellence continues, notwithstanding the kicks and bricks that are howled and hurled every off and on.

Long ago in the hoary past, Man embarked upon a course of action that was at times not only staggering and stupefying but also stimulating and surprising. Many a time he became oblivious to the immediate needs of food and water, and took on the hostile forces of his immediate surroundings as well as those of the distant dreams and subdued them to his designs and directions. His indomitable courage brought him face to face with herculean problems but he proved equal—sometime superior—to the occasion to carve a niche and leave a mark in consonance with his aesthetic sensibilities and creative sensitivities. Even now, once he takes a plunge and accepts the gauntlet, there is nothing to stop him from emotional,

intellectual and spiritual odyssey. He is fully conscious of the fact that 'bread and butter' cannot thwart him from conceiving and creating the master-pieces, the like of which his fore-fathers have left him as legacy and inspiration, in the realms of fine arts (poetry, painting, sculpture, music, dance etc); intellectual and philosophical treatises and spiritual revelations like the Vedas, Gita, Bible etc. As life becomes more and more complex and materialistic, Man's search for meaning and purpose in life becomes pointed and poignant and like his predecessors he swears to continue unabated and undeterred the probe into the larger questions of 'life and death', 'love and hate', 'attachment & detachment', 'myth & reality'.

Man has come through a long and complicated evolutionary past. While evidences of his subhuman heritage still persist, he reaches to explore a human future that is essentially uncharted. Surely he differs from other animals in the long post-natal period during which physical, emotional, social and intellectual maturation occurs. It is during this period that metamorphosis proceeds from animal to human. The degree to which this occurs successfully is a measure, in part, of the nature and influence of the nurture and the education to which the individual is exposed in the early years of his life. Nurture of the young, and education in later years, are largely man-determined, and are widely different for different cultures. All the same, the variation so acquired, under the pressure of needs, other than purely physical and biological, in no way renders his work, whether social, emotional or intellectual, inferior and his contribution less valuable. Man's fitness for survival has been amply tested under circumstances heretofore dictated by nature. Now, however, man creates the circumstances in which he finds himself. Thus a new kind of awareness arises from the increased pressure and stress of

change that he has himself created. By increasing the variety of opportunities for choice, he has accelerated his cultural evolution to a point at which the dominant influence is change, or the speed of change, itself.

Since nature includes man himself, it was inevitable that, as threats to his physical survival became less pressing, man's attention would turn eventually in the direction of his own mind. It was inevitable, too, that the eventual development of a critical level of basic knowledge would bring about the realization of hitherto unrecognized powers of his body, heart, mind and spirit. And this would permit and encourage both realistic and speculative thought about problems which might otherwise have continued to be avoided. Man is aware that his major problems now are himself as he experiences the self within his own confines, and himself in opposition to the selves of others. Since 'bread and butter' is not the only passion and pursuit of man, he has become amazingly aware that each new generation comes upon the scene of existence with a new view and a new desire to assume its share of responsibility. Responsibility for self and for others is the expression of an innate biological cum-human necessity. We have enough evidence that the exercise of responsibility contributes to the health and well-being of individual man. He has already transformed the face of the earth by the exercise of his creative capacity.

Only man possesses the capacity for many responsibilities, which each individual identifies and develops for himself. His constructive aim seems to be to bring about consonance and conciliation between his outer environment and his inner self. His intellect needs to guide his intuitive sense as he strives to create a world closer to his heart's desire. By co-ordinating his talents and multi-faceted faculties, he can always address himself and say emphatically that "man does not live by bread alone".

Benazir Bhutto on the Brink

Pak Politics—Impact on India

Like India's present Prime Minister, Ms Benazir Bhutto heads a minority government. But while Mr V.P. Singh enjoys wide support and has a majority behind him, his counterpart in Islamabad is constantly beleaguered, with powerful political rivals firmly determined to overthrow her regime, which is as fragile as Pakistan's democracy.

Indeed, Benazir's position is vulnerable. Veteran politicians, of almost all the provinces, together with lakhs of fundamentalists and others, are ranged against her. No wonder her principal objective now is political survival amidst the raging storm. Even American observers have begun to doubt whether she will complete her full five-year term. "That would be a miracle", they have said.

Lately, she has aroused a war hysteria, extending full support to the Kashmiris in their "struggle for liberation". The gamble is likely to misfire.

This special feature presents Benazir's many-faceted political story, her domestic compulsions that have transformed her into an anti-India hawk.

I. Introduction

Ms Benazir Bhutto was sworn in on December 2, 1988, and is Pakistan's first woman Prime Minister—in fact the first woman to lead an Islamic nation. Her Prime Ministership so far has been a period of internal troubles. Though she survived the no-confidence motion sponsored in the National Assembly by the strong opposition, she has had many problems to face on political and other counts.

Her Pakistan People's Party (PPP) commands a narrow majority in the legislature even after the merger of the Mohajir Qaumi Movement (MQM) of Sind; hence her position is highly insecure. The very idea of a woman Prime Minister of Pakistan is repulsive

to the countless fundamentalists in that country. Sooner or later, they believe, she will be ousted from power.

Ms Benazir is the first democratically elected Prime Minister of Pakistan. Her assumption of office was truly an epoch-making event. It marked the triumph of the people's power. On December 13, 1988, she won a vote of confidence in the National Assembly with 148 votes for and 55 against. But the undemocratic forces and hostile elements threaten her position at almost every step. On current showing, and with the increasing opposition, especially in Punjab and Sind, it is not at all certain whether she will be able to last as Prime Minister for a full five-year term.

After surviving the first formidable challenge posed by her principal rival, Mr Nawaz Sharif, Punjab Chief Minister, she decided to enlarge her cabinet in order to make it broad-based and more representative of various groups.

Soon after assumption of office Benazir had to suffer several setbacks. The first was the politically motivated dissolution of the Baluchistan Assembly by the Governor on the Chief Minister's advice. The second, caused by the results of the 20 by-elections (13 to the National Assembly and seven to the Provincial Assembly) was more significant since it indicated that the Islamic Jamhoori Ittehad (IJI), which is in power in Punjab, would continue to pose a formidable challenge to her.

While Benazir continues to command control of Sind, Mr Nawaz Sharif has Punjab (which contains 60 per cent of the country's population) as his political estate. He and his party initially accused her of following a policy of appeasement towards New Delhi. In recent months, however, this charge has lost its sting as a result of her anti-India postures.

Benazir Bhutto is facing another

challenge—the demand for autonomy voiced by Baluchistan and Punjab which claim that the Constitution of Pakistan provides for grant of such autonomy. The demand has been gathering momentum. On October 7, 1989, the Baluchistan Assembly unanimously passed a resolution calling for more powers to the provinces and retention of only four subjects—defence, foreign affairs, currency and communications—by the federal Government. The Punjab ministry is going ahead with several measures that do not conform to the federal laws. Ms Bhutto however continues to enjoy the support of the army, without which she might not have managed to survive.

II. Military's Role

The armed forces have played an important role in Pakistan's politics, the intensity and the scope varying from President to President. Gen Zia-ul-Haq ruled with an iron hand; he had the full backing of Pakistan's military set-up. Benazir Bhutto's Government was preceded by the longest military rule in Pakistan's history. Soon after assuming office as Prime Minister on December 2, 1988, she realised that she would find it difficult to stay as Prime Minister without the tacit, if not active, support of the military forces. But during the first 18 months of her Prime Ministership she seldom clarified her position vis-a-vis the army. She did, however, praise the army on several occasions for their meritorious role. In particular, she paid a tribute to the Army Chief, Gen Mirza Aslam Beg.

On March 22 this year, in a comprehensive address at the National Defence College, she put forward, for the first time, her views on the role of the army in a civilian, democratic set-up. She reviewed the changed nature of relationship between the military and civil society

from the days of martial law to the present, as well as the July, 1977, coup. Under Gen Zia the army's role had been broader than the professional one, usually associated with it—that of protecting the country's frontiers against aggression and ensuring national security all round.

Ms Bhutto referred to the sacrifices that the country makes to "support the needs of the armed forces", with 40 per cent of the Central Government's expenditure going into defence every year. She added that "this monumental sacrifice of the people must be respected and not become a licence for oppression on the part of the army". According to this theory frequently peddled in the past, the army was also entrusted with the responsibility of "protecting ideological frontiers".

Ordinary citizens in a democratic polity are the protectors of its ideological basis. "In recent times, we have seen that neither the Berlin Wall nor the most fearsome Red Army could protect the ideological frontiers of the communist world." Ms Bhutto referred to the "unfortunate confrontation between the army and the people", in the aftermath of the July, 1977, coup. She praised the new leadership of the armed forces after the death of Gen Zia.

At present Ms Bhutto is feeling more secure in her position as Prime Minister. True, the army remains an important factor in the Pakistani power structure. Her civilian predecessors, including her father, were removed from office by the military chiefs. No wonder she has avoided any large-scale purge of military officers from the civil administration. For instance, three out of Pakistan's four provinces have former Generals as Governors, including two who were Zia's nominees. Two of her closest aides, including her Chief of Staff (who heads her secretariat) and her defence advisers, as well as her Foreign Minister, her Minister of State for Defence and her key civilian Intelligence aides are all former military officers.

Ms Bhutto seems to be following a three-pronged strategy to deal with the army. First, she continues to appease the armed forces through various gestures, such as endorsing the army's presence in Sind. Second, she has allowed the army exclusive responsibility for the conduct and

control over Afghan policy and is receptive to other foreign policy inputs. Third, she has been banking on support from Washington, since key members of Congress have made it clear that "the United States will stop all aid, military and economic, in case of a military coup in Pakistan."

III. President Ishaq and Benazir

In recent years, three centres of power have been operating in Pakistan—the President, the army and the Prime Minister, in that order. It is common knowledge that for 11 years Gen Zia was the unquestioned, all-powerful ruler of Pakistan with the support of the military forces who were at his command. President Ghulam Ishaq Khan has had a chequered career. For a long time he was aligned with the Islami Janhooori Ittehad (IJI), which is strongly opposed to Benazir Bhutto. Mr Ishaq Khan became a compromise President after the developments that followed Gen Zia's death. That was described as the price Benazir paid for becoming Prime Minister. Her future depended on the President's decision when the election results were declared in November, 1988. Since she had not been able to secure a majority, though her party, the PPP, emerged as the largest group, the President could have upset Benazir's apple-cart if he had decided to follow Gen Zia's example. But he tactfully resolved to accept the democratic realities and invited Benazir to form the new Government and prove her majority within a specified period. She was able to do so, with the support of the 14 members of the Mohajir Qaumi Movement (MQM) and a few representatives of the Federally administered territories. The MQM extended reticent support to enable Benazir pass through the political test, but this small group, especially its student wing, has often been at loggerheads with the PPP; its student cadres have fought many bloody feuds with their counterparts of the PPP in Karachi and Hyderabad. On many counts, the MQM is an untrustworthy ally, but it is pulling on somehow, apparently because no viable alternative is open to it now. It backs Benazir provisionally despite her drawbacks and her Government's ineffectiveness.

Close observers of the scene have affirmed that President Ishaq is by no

means a constitutional head of Pakistan; rather, he is an important centre of power. He has been meeting opposition leaders often. Many suspect he has been undercutting the democratically elected Benazir regime. The future of Benazir Bhutto and of the fragile democracy in Pakistan depends upon the role he chooses to play, not on Benazir Bhutto's performance or lack of it. He appears regularly on the State-owned television, along with Benazir Bhutto and also, be it noted, the Army Chief. It is a "Troika" that is governing Pakistan or at any rate occupying supreme power. Thus there are three centres of power.

Benazir, at times, has sharp differences with the President regarding the interpretation of the constitution and the scope of the President's powers. In 1989 the two leaders differed in respect of certain appointments. After a threatened crisis, a compromise was reached. It may be mentioned that under the Emergency powers given to the President by the Constitution, he could (until March 20, 1990) remove Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto's shaky government, suspend or dissolve the National Assembly, call for fresh elections, induct an interim or caretaker government at the Centre. In the military arena he could appoint the Chairman of the Joint Chief of Staff Committee and the three service chiefs. But it is also believed that the Prime Minister has the power to order their retirement. There was a crisis on the issue of retirement of Admiral Sirohey, Chairman of the Joint Chief of Staff Committee. Presumably, the President as well as the Prime Minister wanted to show who was the boss.

Benazir's new rival: It is common knowledge that Ms Benazir Bhutto's principal rival, main detractor and contender for power is the Punjab Chief Minister, Mr Nawaz Sharif, leader of I.J.I., who has not reconciled himself to the installation of an inexperienced woman as Pakistan's Prime Minister.

But in recent weeks another rival has emerged on the political scene—Gen Zia-ul-Haq's son Ijaz (37). The latter's quest to find his father's killers (he and his supporters refuse to believe that the plane crash in August, 1988, in which Gen Zia died, was an accident). The young man's all-out efforts have opened a bitter new chapter in the feud between the country's two leading families.

Joined in his crusade by Huyman Khan, son of General Akhtar Rehman, Zia's right-hand man who also died in the crash, he has been touring Pakistan to get at the facts. The two sons have interviewed thousands of people and now believe they know who was responsible for what they call "the worst crime of the century", although so far they feel powerless to do anything about it.

The campaign bears a remarkable resemblance to that of Benazir Bhutto, who devoted her youth to avenging the death of her father hanged under the Zia regime. Ijaz's campaign has galvanised the right-wing opposition against Bhutto. Bhutto and Ijaz have become as deadly political foes as their fathers were before them, locked in a battle for the future leadership of Pakistan.

IV. Successes and Setbacks

Although it is rather early to draw up a balance-sheet of her success and setbacks, some of her notable achievements and lapses can be listed. Benazir Bhutto's biggest achievement is said to be the democratisation of Pakistan. Her detractors now enjoy the same freedom which they denied to her for eleven long years to the ridiculous extent that even the mention of her name on radio and television was taboo. Hardly a day has since passed when her opponents have not had time on the government-controlled media to launch a tirade against her. This confirms her democratic credentials.

Then there is the release of thousands of political prisoners within a week of the new Government's assumption of office. This step benefited mostly the workers of the Prime Minister's own People's Party, besides others languishing in Zia-ul-Haq's jails for long periods.

The revival of student and labour organisations, promise of a fair deal to women and a perceptible improvement in the law and order situation, the crisis over the dissolution of the Baluchistan Assembly (eventually resolved by the judiciary), a renewed controversy raised by the Ulema questioning the propriety of a woman becoming Prime Minister of an Islamic country, and violent aberrations like the agitation over the Rushdie affair leading to police firing and death of seven persons were among the other

notable events of her early period as Prime Minister.

Ms Bhutto's brief foreign visits as Prime Minister of a democratic Pakistan were hailed as a signal success, particularly in making personal contacts with world leaders who had gathered in Tokyo for Emperor Hirohito's funeral. The other countries she visited were China, Pakistan's long-standing ally, orthodox Saudi Arabia and a few other West Asian countries.

Obstacles: But Benazir Bhutto Government has got to cross innumerable hurdles. It would be unreasonable to assume that any major breakthrough has been possible towards freeing the State of the shackles devised by the Zia regime. The fledgling democracy can work only through tact and compromise and to the extent that the balance of forces permits.

In the political arena, Benazir has to contend with persisting confrontation in the all-important Punjab province. Besides, there are the leading lights of the right-wing Jammat-i-Islami like Qazi Ahmed Hussain. The precarious financial position of the country has been steadily pushing up prices of commodities and services.

The Benazir Government is determined to repeal the controversial Eighth Amendment under which the late Gen Zia acquired wide powers and secured indemnity for all actions of the military regime, as a price for revoking the martial law in 1985. However, the PPP lacks the requisite two-thirds majority in the National Assembly, besides having a Muslim League-controlled hostile Senate. Even some of Ms Bhutto's admirers are wary of giving absolute powers to her, fearing possible abuse of such powers under pressures from within the ruling party.

V. Breaker of Poll Promises

Like most ambitious leaders of political parties, Benazir Bhutto made several alluring promises during her election campaign. Again, like other politicians, she has not been able, out of sheer force of circumstances and as a result of domestic compulsions, to implement her electoral commitments. Although she has not lived up to the people's expectations, at any rate during the first 18 months of power, she still remains preferable and the best bet, in the view of

millions of people both inside and outside Pakistan, to military rule.

A veteran Pakistani politician, Sher Baaz Mazari, leader of the National Democratic Party, who was in New Delhi in the third week of March this year, charged that Benazir Bhutto made compromises to become the Prime Minister; she made yet more compromises and forged new political alliances, apart from climbing down from her high perch as the months passed, to retain her top position.

She is rightly stated to have let down the Movement for the Restoration of Democracy (MRD) which, incidentally, was supported by India. Benazir's own People's Political Party had regained its falling position and lost popularity by becoming a constituent of the MRD. But she and her party refused to have any electoral alliance with other MRD constituents. She had promised to disband the notorious National Press Trust, which had served as a tool in the hands of Gen Zia, but has not done so.

March 20 crisis: Through a favourable combination of circumstances and good luck, Ms Benazir Bhutto survived the crises threatened by the opposition over the legality of her continuance in office after March 20, 1990. Events nearly came to a head with the opposition calling for Benazir Bhutto's re-election on March 20, since there are conflicting interpretations regarding a provision in the 8th Constitutional Amendment (described by cynics as "a self-destruction clause"). Under this provision, the presidential power to nominate a Prime Minister ends upon completion of its mandatory five years and hence, the opposition claims, the Prime Minister should be formally elected as the leader of the House.

But the PPP view has been that a fresh election is not due since, after winning a vote of confidence following her nomination as Prime Minister in December, 1988, Benazir Bhutto is entitled to complete her five-year term of office. There are others who suggest that she can pre-empt this constitutional rignmarole which, in any case, was specially devised as a sort of "personal and political risk insurance" by General Zia by seeking a fresh vote of confidence.

This amendment vested the power to nominate the Prime Minister in the Head of State, and insulated the

various clauses of the statute from any tinkering for full five years. That was five years ago, and the Constitution (so the opposition argues) reverts back to its old scope and contents from March 21, 1990 onwards. This is an unusual feature in any practising democracy, giving a free hand to the two major contending parties to read into the situation what suits their interests best. The opposition contended that the country would be without a Prime Minister on March 21 since Ms Bhutto would lose her legitimacy which she drew by virtue of being nominated by President Ishaq Khan. Since the power to nominate would end on that date, the old nomination itself would get invalidated.

VI. Nepotism under PPP Rule

According to allegations made by opposition parties, nepotism and corruption in various forms have become common during the Pakistan People's Party (PPP) rule. Since its inception in December, 1988, the opposition has alleged, Benazir Bhutto's Federal Government has packed various corporations with its hand-picked activists and loyalists on the pretext of rewarding them for services rendered during the 11 years of Gen Zia-ul-Haq's martial law regime. Most of the appointees are relatives and friends of the ruling elite.

About 100 Foreign Service officers have protested against direct inductees who are blocking their chances of promotion. Most of these appointments were made directly by the Prime Minister's secretariat. Some favour has been shown in federally run corporations, including Pakistan International Airlines. Such facts are emerging because the Senate, the country's upper house of parliament, is controlled by the opposition.

Ms Bhutto is also being criticised for her squandering spree. Senator Khurshid of the opposition recently disclosed that a sum of Rs 2.50 crore was spent on Ms Bhutto's U.S. visit last year. The Senator was participating in a price rise debate and said that incurring huge expenditure by Benazir Bhutto made a mockery of her appeal to the nation on March 23 this year to ensure economy in expenditure.

Allotment of Plots: Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto allotted 275 plots between December, 1988, and

March, 1990, ranging from 200 to 1022 square yards, under her discretionary quota to Ministers, members of Parliament, bureaucrats, civilians, defence personnel and others, sparking off a controversy over an alleged land scandal. The issue came up in the Senate when three members wanted the Government to reveal the names of persons who had been allotted plots, both residential and commercial, in the Islamabad area since December, 1988. They also sought details of loans worth Rs 10 million given by various financial agencies during this period.

During the Junejo regime, the discretionary quota to dole out plots in the federal capital was fixed at 12 per cent of the total plots available in new sectors. Later, during the administration of the caretaker government, this system was scrapped by Mr Ghulam Ishaq Khan. It was restored when Ms Bhutto came to power and raised the quota to 40 per cent. The list reportedly includes several Federal Ministers. Plots were also given to Ms Bhutto's advisers, ADCs and her private secretary.

The Baluchistan and Punjab governments have filed a joint petition in the Pakistan Supreme Court asking it to direct the Federal Government to convene a meeting of the Council of Common Interests (CCI).

The filing of the petition follows persistent refusal of the Bhutto Government to convene a CCI meeting to discuss outstanding issues between them. The CCI is a constitutional body which is convened if there are any unresolved issues between the Federal Government and the provinces.

The petitioners said that further delay in calling a CCI meeting is undermining the sanctity of constitutional provisions and is also creating suspicions in the minds of the people that the federation is unwilling to run the country within the limits of provincial autonomy laid down in the constitution.

VII. Impact on India

Benazir Bhutto started her Prime Ministership of Pakistan with specific and repeated assurances of friendship and cordiality towards India. Mr Rajiv Gandhi, the then Prime Minister of India, visited Islamabad at the end of December, 1988, Benazir went all out to wel-

come him. A new era in India-Pakistan relations was expected to begin with young, democratically elected and enthusiastic Prime Ministers heading the regimes in the two countries.

A concrete result of Mr Rajiv Gandhi's visit to Pakistan was the signing of three accords, the most important being the one that banned attacks on each other's nuclear installations. The accord provides for exchange of locational data on nuclear facilities. The installations covered include any other facility with fresh or irradiated nuclear fuel and establishments storing significant quantities of radio-active materials. Each side promised to inform the other on January 1 every year of the latitude and longitude of its nuclear installations and facilities.

The crucial clause binds the two nations to refrain from undertaking, encouraging or participating in, any action aimed at causing the destruction of, or damage to, any nuclear installation or facility of the other country. The two governments reaffirmed their commitment to durable peace and the development of friendly and harmonious bilateral relations. Conforming to the refreshing winds of change, Benazir expressed, more than once, her desire to establish friendly relations with India and to facilitate the restoration of peace in the sub-continent.

But most countries display a continuity in their foreign policy, even when there is a significant change in the structure of the Government and in the party in power. For this reason, it was wrong to presume that the establishment of a democratically elected government in Pakistan would automatically improve Indo-Pak relations. Of course India hoped to find it easier to work with a democratic Pakistan and a down-to-earth, secular minded Benazir than with a power-obsessed military dictator such as Gen Zia. Even so, it was unlikely that Benazir would accept New Delhi's plea on various issues, such as Siachen and "Azad Kashmir".

At her first conference she openly said she did not favour a no-war pact, which was a legacy of Gen Zia, who described it as his "peace offensive against India".

Hopes of a friendly Pakistan raised when Benazir expressed hope that "days of extremists"

sides of the border are over". She declared herself firmly against playing the "Sikh card" and actively supporting extremists' activity. Now that Pakistan and India can build up a new era, she said, neither country will feel obliged to play up each other's ethnic tensions. She seemed anxious to remove all doubts whether she would discontinue the policy of supporting terrorists in Punjab and Kashmir. She would not like "such doubts to taint our relationship", she said. But she has not proved true to her word. The new era of peace in the sub-continent which could have benefited both countries did not materialise.

Western Intelligence sources have confirmed the training of thousands of Kashmiri militants in training camps functioning in Pakistan and Pak-occupied areas, in arms and subversion.

From Dove to a Hawk: Political exigencies and the desperate manoeuvre to survive by resorting to empty rhetoric and even by going from one extreme to another, have apparently transformed Benazir Bhutto from a dove to a hawk, from a soft spoken believer in democratic ideals into a virtual aggressor. Her distinctly anti-India rhetoric, her strong support to the Kashmiris on the issue of self-determination, her apparently successful effort to outmanoeuvre the opposition parties by playing the Kashmir card are now unmistakable. At public meetings she virtually aroused war hysteria.

But shrewd observers in both India and Pakistan rightly believe that if there is war between the two countries, it would smash not only Pakistan's dream but also Benazir's new strategy, end her once-promising career and facilitate the re-emergence of the military on top and signal the end of democracy (such as it is) in Pakistan.

Her partymen recently went to the extent of raising the slogan publicly—"Benazir will get Kashmir for Pakistan". Since there is no possibility of India surrendering Kashmir, the expectations she has aroused will not materialise. The almost certain disillusionment among the Pakistani people and the bitter reaction against Benazir would erode her credibility. As a commentator put it, she has been playing with fire which may in a matter of months "consume" her politically.

The denials notwithstanding, the army and the clergy (the large number of fundamentalists and reactionaries and her sworn political enemies) are waiting in the wings to seize the opportunity to bring about her downfall. The repercussions of her failure to fulfil the promises she has lately been making to achieve political aims would then be grave and she might soon have cause to repent.

Not unexpectedly, for many of the ills of Pakistan, India's top secret Intelligence agency, RAW, is blamed. It is being held responsible for subversion, assassinations, bomb blasts and other acts of terrorism which have been occurring frequently in Pakistan.

VIII. Will Benazir Survive?

Benazir Bhutto has managed so far to survive the crises that have erupted every now and then in both political and economic fields. But how long she will be able to stay in office cannot be said with certainty because of the several imponderables. Even some U.S. political analysts doubt whether she will be able to complete her five-year term despite the assured support of the U.S. President and his Administration. The fact is that the democratic complexion of the Benazir regime notwithstanding, it is the U.S. that calls the tune. The American Ambassador remains in regular consultation with the Pakistan President, the Prime Minister, the army chief and also the opposition leaders. So far President Bush has been counselling restraint in every arena of possible conflict, not for the sake of promoting Pakistan's stability but to ensure his own interests—political, diplomatic and military. Actually, the U.S. has always enjoyed a clout in Islamabad, its major protegee. It was to President Bush that Benazir Bhutto turned when she found herself in difficulties of various kinds within a few months of taking over the reins. So, active U.S. support is the first prerequisite of her continuance in office.

The second factor is the support of the army. In a way, it was the decision of the army not to interfere with the election process and to accept the verdict of the electorate in November, 1988, that facilitated the emergence of Benazir Bhutto as Prime Minister. Since then, she has gone out of her way to praise the army, and the army, in turn, has (at least outwardly) backed her regime. The

Army Chief, in a statement, explained that the army would not allow anyone to "derail the democratic process in the country". He was reported to have added: "The military has neither the desire nor the will to intervene in political affairs; if the army were to intervene, we would mess up the whole thing."

Third, there is the virtual revolt of the Punjab Chief Minister, Nawaz Sharif, who also heads the main opposition party, the IJI. Some of the demands of the Punjab Government smack of secessionism. Mr Nawaz Sharif has not reconciled himself to "an inexperienced woman" ruling Pakistan. He has been trying to project himself as a national alternative to Benazir Bhutto. Baluchistan has proved to be another headache to Benazir Bhutto. The influential Chief Minister, a tribal leader, has been frequently criticising the Bhutto regime, urging the President to dismiss her. The Baluchistan Assembly voted unanimously for complete autonomy, with only defence, foreign policy, currency and communications under central control.

Benazir Bhutto's own province of Sind has also been posing challenges to her position. The endless ethnic violence, the bloodshed between the Sindhis and the immigrants from India, in her own backyard are matters of grave concern to her. Although her party, the PPP, is in power in two provinces, the NWFP and Sind, the situation there does not substantially strengthen her position except for the record.

To cap it all, there is the utter and highly deplorable inefficiency of the Benazir administration. That is one of the major reasons why she has not been able to consolidate her position politically. The bureaucracy is opposed to her on several grounds; in fact, it has been traditionally hostile to the PPP. Among the factors that have made the bureaucrats angry are the out-of-turn appointments and promotions, the imposition of favourites, besides the frequent switch in Government policy. There is a widespread belief that the bureaucracy is trying to sabotage the Benazir regime. The conclusion seems inescapable that Benazir Bhutto cannot rely on the bureaucracy for implementation of her decisions. She has to do much tight-rope walking to remain in office.

Special Status for Kashmir

The demand for scrapping Article 370 of the Indian Constitution is now being voiced more vehemently than ever before. What is the basis of this controversy? What would be the repercussions of withdrawing the special status granted to J. & K.?

The Instrument of Accession of Jammu and Kashmir to India was signed by the late Maharaja Hari Singh in October, 1947, following the persuasion by Mr Jawaharlal Nehru. Among the main aims of granting a special status to the State were: (a) to ensure the Kashmiris that their distinct identity would thus be preserved, and (b) to placate the Muslims of the Kashmir Valley who were feeling uncertain over their future, especially because most of the areas where their community was in a majority had gone over to Pakistan.

The accession is governed by Article 1(2) and the first Schedule of the Constitution. The wording of Article 370 and also its title are both significant. The title is: "Temporary provisions with respect to the State of Jammu and Kashmir." Did this imply that it was designed as a temporary or provisional arrangement?

The Article runs as follows: "Notwithstanding anything in this Constitution—(a) the provisions of Article 238 in Part VII (which was later omitted by the Constitution (Seventh Amendment) Act, 1956), shall not apply in relation to the State of Jammu and Kashmir, (b) the power of Parliament to make laws for the said State shall be limited to (i) those matters in the Union List and the Concurrent List which, in consultation with the Government of the State, are declared by the President to correspond to matters specified in the Instrument of Accession as the matters with respect to which the Dominion Legislature may make laws for that State, and (ii) such other matters in the said Lists as, with the concurrence of the Government of the State, the President may by order specify..." It was also provided that the orders would be

issued in consultation with the Government of that State....

Vital Cord: Many legal experts hold the view that Article 370 is the umbilical cord that links J & K to India and has been dynamically brought into play time and again through constitutional amendments extending various provisions of the Indian Constitution to J & K with the consent of the State Assembly. The Article, it needs to be recalled, broadly follows the identical procedure employed in similarly extending Indian constitutional provisions to all the other 500-600 princely States, existing before India became independent.

The Article essentially governs Centre-State relations pertaining to J & K. Centre-State relations and issues of regional balance within States are similarly dealt with in the case of Gujarat, Maharashtra, Andhra, Assam, Sikkim, Manipur, Nagaland, Tripura, Meghalaya, Arunachal, etc, in Article 371 and Article 371-A to I and Schedules 5 and 6. Kashmir, in this sense, is not uniquely treated. Article 371-A relating to Nagaland provides that no Act of Parliament with regard to certain matters specified shall apply to Nagaland unless the Legislative Assembly of that State by resolution so decides.

Since the State of Travancore insisted that payments to its Devaswom Fund for the maintenance of certain Hindu temples must be continued as a condition for extension of the Indian Constitution to its domain, this was accepted and incorporated in Article 290-A. The Constitution is replete with such "special provisions".

Case for Abrogation of Article 370: The main political party which has been demanding cancellation of this Article is the Jan Sangh, mostly comprising Hindus and described by many as a communal entity. The plea of this party, and of some others who favour abrogation, is: (a) that this Article is the root cause of all the

trouble over J & K; (b) that this Article has encouraged the secessionist elements in other parts of the country; (c) Abrogation of the Article will prove that the Government is serious in tackling the menace of terrorism; (d) The Constituent Assembly proceedings show that when objections were raised to the inclusion of Article 370 an assurance was given by the framers of the Constitution that it would get eroded gradually. This happened to some extent during the premiership of Bakshi Ghulam Mohammed, but it was not taken to its logical conclusion.

The fear that the demand for a plebiscite, a promise made by Mr Nehru in 1948, will gain momentum is only illusory. Such demands are still being made, although much water has flown under the bridge during the last 40 years. Article 370 serves as a reminder to the Muslims of Jammu and Kashmir and the rest of the country that it has yet to merge with the country. This impression creates uncertainty and ambiguity. It is also argued that the situation has become grave despite the fact that the Article is very much a part of the Constitution and, as a result, the State continues to enjoy the special status accorded to it when it acceded to India.

The Bharatiya Janata Party made abrogation of this Article one of its commitments in the election manifesto for the last Lok Sabha polls. The leaders of this party have repeatedly reiterated its stand on this issue. The party's Vice-President, while repeating the stand, went to the extent of expressing the hope that the party would not have to give an ultimatum to the Union Government in this regard. Mr Atal Behari Vajpayee, a senior BJP leader and a former Foreign Minister (in the Janata Ministry 1977-79), declared in New York on April 29 this year that Article 370 had created a psychological barrier. All Indians, he stressed, should be treated on equal footing. There should be no discrimination; therefore the Kashmir

problem stems from Article 370. However, he made it clear that his party's disagreement over Article 370 did not come in the way in supporting the National Front Government headed by Mr V.P. Singh.

Case Against the Demand: The National Front's main constituent—the Janata Dal—stands committed to the retention of this Article in the Constitution. They, like countless other people in the country, regard it as “a bridge between the State and the rest of the country”. The former Kashmir Chief Minister, Dr Farooq Abdullah, warned that any attempt to abrogate it “will have serious consequences”.

The fact is that Article 370 is the only legal window through which the Republic of India maintains its territorial link with Jammu and Kashmir and extends its jurisdiction to the State. To scrap this special provision would mean reverting to the Instrument of Accession of October, 1947. Such reversion would merely offer an opportunity to the secessionists in Kashmir to demand a plebiscite and provide further ground to those seeking to internationalise the issue. After Kashmir's accession, this State was permitted to enjoy two special rights—a separate Constitution and retention of Kashmir State subject laws, in view of the unusual historical circumstances leading to the accession.

The pledge of a plebiscite at the United Nations was another ground for according special status to Kashmir. The Indian proposal for a referendum was subject to the restoration of complete normalcy in Kashmir. The Government of India had promised a plebiscite to ascertain the wishes of the Kashmiri people at some later date, subject to the specified conditions. At the same time the Constituent Assembly, which included the representative of Kashmir, wanted to preserve an organic link of government with Kashmir. Hence the need for a special provision vis-a-vis Kashmir. In other words, Article 370 provided a mechanism to declare Kashmir an integral part of India and at the same time allowed the people of the State to exercise their option for either a total merger with India or a plebiscite.

The critics' contention that there is discrimination between Kashmir and

the other States of India is partially correct. But this is due to the historical factors as well as the necessity of giving firm assurances to the sensitive people of the Valley that their distinct identity will not be eroded.

It would be relevant to recall in this connection the explanation given by the late Mr Gopalaswamy Iyengar who played an important role in framing the Indian Constitution. He stated: “This discrimination is due to the special conditions of Kashmir. That particular state is not yet ripe for the kind of integration accorded to the other States.”

The effect of this Article, he added, is that J & K will continue to be a part of India and will be a unit of the future Federal Republic of India. The Union Legislature will get jurisdiction to enact laws on matters specified either in the Instrument of Accession or by later addition with the concurrence of the Government of the State. A revocation would invite disaster and encourage the anti-national forces which demand plebiscite and independence for Kashmir.

Accession Complete: Legal experts and others have repeatedly asserted that the accession of Kashmir to India is constitutionally total and complete. Article I and the First Schedule enumerate the territories of India and their extent. The State of J & K is of course included in the list and there is nothing that differentiates it from, say, Uttar Pradesh or West Bengal or Maharashtra. As for the few limits on the extension of laws passed by India's Parliament to J & K (this is described by some critics as “severe restrictions” of the legislative competence of Parliament), it is clear from the Seventh Schedule that there are similar restrictions in respect of several other States. So the provision is not unique.

Nor is the belief that this Article promotes secessionism and creates doubts in the minds of many people about the legal position of J & K well founded. In recent years, secessionist demands have been made in several States—Punjab, Assam and Tamil Nadu—at one time or another by discontented groups, even though these States are not governed by Article 370. The fact that the demand in Kashmir Valley is most vociferous is because of the continuing politically

motivated encouragement given by Pakistan to the subversive elements.

Moreover, no advantage is to be had by abrogating Article 370 unilaterally in violation of a solemn understanding given by India (through the Instrument of Accession). It was (and continues to be) a binding commitment and must not be revoked; otherwise, the Government of India's credibility will be seriously eroded. India's prestige and honour do not suffer and are not endangered in any way by giving the people of Kashmir, highly sensitive as they are, special treatment and certain powers within the ambit of the overall Indian federal structure. In fact, there is basis for the argument that those who repeatedly demand the abrogation of Article 370 indirectly and unintentionally give encouragement to the secessionist elements in the Valley. It would be best to end this futile controversy because, as all parties in India agree that Kashmir is an integral part of this country.

A tragic aspect of this controversy, apart from the political complications, is that it has taken a communal colour even though that was not the intention of the sponsors. In recent years there has been a distinct trend in many parts of the country, especially those situated on or adjacent to the borders—Punjab and J & K on one side, and the north-eastern States on the other. This undemocratic trend could be due, among other factors, to the increasing centralisation of the administration. It is, however, futile to impute political motives to the party in power at the national level. There are the compulsions of a federal government in modern times.

The insistent demand for abrogation of Article 370 is suspected by many nationalists to be a design to weaken the Centre when the country is facing a grave situation which calls for a check on all fissiparous tendencies. Those who seek a re-definition of India's quasi-federal polity do have a point. Since there is a clamour from several regions for greater autonomy, the question needs to be examined in the context of Centre-State relations in the changing conditions. Harping on the demand for abrogation of the Article intensifies the fears of sensitive Kashmiris.

"Backward" and "Forward"

The Union Government's announcement that it will implement the Mandal Commission's report on job reservations for backward castes this year has put the spotlight on highly controversial proposals that involve the future of the vast majority of the population. The disclosure on May 8 that special laws are to be passed to protect the interests of other communities adds a new dimension to the problem.

Millions of people in various parts of the country now demand preferential treatment in recruitment for jobs at various levels and also in admissions to professional and other institutions. On May 8, following the demand of most of the members of the Rajya Sabha, the Government gave an assurance that legislation would soon be brought forward for extending the benefit of special treatment to some sections of Christians and Muslims, two important minorities of the country. The highly controversial questions of providing reservations for Scheduled Castes and Tribes and other weaker sections of society has consequently again become the focus of public attention.

Political parties have used reservations as a weapon to ensure electoral gains. During the last Lok Sabha elections and in the subsequent period leaders of the parties now constituting the National Front Government virtually incited vast sections of the people to demand preferential treatment in recruitment to the services and in admissions to professional institutions. In a bid to fulfil the electoral commitment in this regard and to pacify the spokesman of the large "vote banks", especially in States such as U.P. and Bihar where the vulnerable categories of the people predominate, Prime Minister V.P. Singh has made policy announcements in recent months. These have raised vital issues affecting the entire social and economic structure of Indian society. The effort of course is to promote social justice and ensure political support of crores of people—

the intended beneficiaries of preferential treatment. The backward people should of course be enabled to reach the level of "forwards" as far as possible.

Origins of controversy: The repeatedly extended provision for reservations for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes under Part XVI, Articles 330-342, of the Constitution is all too familiar. So also are the controversies aroused whenever each extension of the initial 10-year period is sought in Parliament. The immediate provocations for heated debates and expression of protest by the losers from the system of reservations are the Mandal Commission's potentially "explosive recommendations".

The Mandal Commission was appointed by Mr Morarji Desai on December 20, 1978, in the wake of widespread violence in Bihar and Uttar Pradesh over the reservations for Other Backward Classes (OBCs) introduced by the Janata ministries in the two worst affected States. In 1981 there were violent and prolonged disturbances in Gujarat, extending over 100 days, against reservations in medical colleges. The Mandal Commission report was tabled in Parliament in April, 1982, and subsequently received parliamentary endorsement.

In 1985 the increase in OBC quota by the Gujarat Government on the eve of Assembly elections once again rocked that State. The Union Government then announced that implementation of the Mandal report would be kept in abeyance until a national consensus on the entire issue of reservations was reached. Such a consensus has not emerged nor, judging from the intensity and scope of the agitation for and against the recommendations, is an accord likely to materialise.

The Mandal Commission was required to determine the criteria for defining the socially and educationally backward classes and to recommend measures for advancement of the backward classes, thus identified.

The Commission applied 11 indicators, grouped as social, educational and economic, for identification of backward classes. It worked on the thesis that social and educational backwardness is directly linked with the low status of certain castes in respect of the Hindus. In the case of non-Hindus, all "untouchable" converts from the Hindu religion and those belonging to low category occupational groups could be deemed to be socially and educationally backward. These classes are other than the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes who make 22.5 per cent of the total. The recommendations of the Mandal Commission can be summarised as follows:

(1) Twenty-seven per cent of the posts in public services should be reserved for Other Backward Castes (OBCs). They constitute 52 per cent of the total population but the reservation quota for them cannot exceed this limit. According to a verdict of the Supreme Court, the total quantum of reservations under Articles 15(4) and 16(4) of the Constitution should be below 50 per cent; at present 22.5 per cent of government jobs are already reserved for the Scheduled Castes (SCs) and Scheduled Tribes (STs) on pro-rata basis of their share in the population.

(2) Welfare programmes specially meant for OBCs should be financed by the Government of India in the same manner and to the same extent as already done in the case of SCs and STs.

(3) Radical land reforms should be brought about in the States to free small land holders from their heavy dependence on rich peasants for subsistence.

(4) OBCs should be helped to set up small-scale industries.

(5) Special educational schemes, with emphasis on vocational training, should be started for OBCs; they should also be given special coaching in technical and professional institu-

tions to enable them to compete with the students from the open quota.

Dangers of Implementation:

Crores of people belonging to the backward classes have been demanding early implementation of the Mandal Commission recommendations, but there are several difficulties and serious implications which the Government of India has to consider.

(a) The crucial issue is whether backwardness should be measured only on the basis of social and educational criteria or in terms of economic considerations also. Of course poverty is a vital factor; in the opinion of many enlightened sections, it should be decisive. The aim should be to cover all poor people.

In any case, division of society along caste lines should be avoided; otherwise one of the basic precepts of Indian polity will be thrown to the winds. Objections to the Commission's report range from the use of caste, instead of economic conditions as a yardstick for determining backwardness, to the criteria used for defining OBCs. According to one perception, there were certain inconsistencies in the Mandal Commission's 11 designated criteria of backwardness which in turn led to contradictions in the application and the results. The Commission's inclusion of certain castes and communities as OBCs on the basis of "personal knowledge" instead of any scientific methodology had also raised some doubts.

It is obvious that if a blanket reservation policy in favour of the Other Backward Castes is adopted, the gains are likely to be cornered by those few who are better off among them. A poverty-based reservation policy will, however, benefit not only the vast majority of the OBCs but also the poor amongst the remaining castes. The benefits of reservations in public services may therefore be extended to those also who are living below the poverty line but are not listed among the backward classes. These could be defined as families whose annual income from all sources is less than Rs 7500.

The Commission used "caste standing" as the exclusive test for classifying OBCs, and this is why its list was swollen to 3,743 castes.

Then, in its zeal to allow benefits to all those falling between upper castes and the untouchables, the Commission neglected the judicial insistence on the comparability of OBCs with SCs in the matter of backwardness. The Commission also decided to treat 75 per cent of India's population as backward. According to the Commission, 52 per cent of India's population comprise OBCs and 23 per cent comprise SCs and STs. If these figures are accepted as correct, then 75 per cent of India's population would become eligible for job and educational reservations. This is opposed to the legal doctrine according to which the eligible beneficiaries of reserved places should be kept reasonably below 50 per cent of the population. The designation of more than 50 per cent of the population as backward has been invalidated by the courts as a "fraud on the Constitution". Besides, the Commission wants the reservation for OBCs to be in proportion to their population.

Once the principle of proportional representation is advocated for all categories of backward classes, it would be impossible to confine the aggregate reservation to less than 50 per cent. So far, the principle of proportional representation has been recognised only in respect of the constitutionally defined SC/STs. At present seats are reserved in legislative bodies, services and educational institutions in proportion to their ratio in the population. On the other hand, the vagueness of the constitutional promises to OBCs has led to unending attempts at definition and redefinition.

The Mandal Commission has made no attempt to eliminate the well-off from amongst the OBCs. Unrestricted expansion of OBC categories will always carry a threat that the entire policy may gravitate into a comprehensive system of caste or communal allotments.

Government's Dilemma: The issue of extending the system of reservations substantially so as to cover the majority of the population is certain to raise a storm of great dimensions. The Government is surely aware that in the face of the recent anti-reservation agitation and the prevailing political conditions, unequivocal acceptance of the Mandal report would cause an explosive reaction at a national level. Outright

rejection of the recommendations would invite political disaster, while its implementation would aggravate social dissensions.

The dithering over the Mandal report since 1982 is understandable. The Commission proposes a major expansion of reservation benefits to vastly expandable categories of OBCs comprising 3,743 castes. It is only fair that the policy of reservations for backward classes should be followed with both care and discretion.

To prevent monopolisation of benefits by a few families steps need to be taken to ensure that gains flow to as many members of the backward classes as possible. The old beneficiaries who are well off should be asked to be self-reliant and compete with candidates in the open category. The reservation policy has benefited few thousand families, mostly urban. The Government should safeguard the interests of the poor Scheduled Castes and Tribes against the rich and resourceful SC/ST sections. Thus, a careful selection has to be made in the national interest.

Article 46 of the Constitution may be put to greater use by the Government. Special programmes may be drawn up for the economic and educational advancement of the OBCs and other below poverty-line households. The performance efficiency must be maintained at all costs. But if talent and merit are continually sacrificed, what would become of the requisite efficiency?

The latest sequel to the Central Government's willingness to extend the concessions provided for Scheduled Castes and Tribes is the directive reportedly issued by the Union Labour and Welfare Minister to the State governments and Union Territories to consider every request from groups, castes and tribes for inclusion in the present list. Article 341, sub-clause 2, and Article 342, sub-clause 2, require that revision of the existing lists of SCs and STs can be made only by Parliament. The States have been asked to send every case to the Centre for examination so that the comprehensive lists may be officially notified. It is believed that the lists will be enlarged considerably. That would benefit thousands of backward people but dishearten lakhs of others.

Export-Import Policy, 1990-93

On the eve of its first fiscal year, the National Front government presented to the Parliament its export-import policy for a three-year term ending with March 1993 by cutting short by one year the policy introduced by the old regime. Its highlights, objectives and the reactions to it are featured in this write-up.

I. Introduction

The new export-import (exim) policy, announced by the National Front government on March 30, 1990, will have a validity for three years from April 1, 1990, to March 31, 1993. It is the third policy of its kind.

The first such three-year policy was started from April 1985 and the second one covered the period from 1988 to 1991. The life of the last exim policy has been abridged by one year with the change of the government. Barring some nuances, it contains no radical changes, and is in continuity of the one adopted by the old regime.

Mounting exports, mounting imports and mounting deficits have been the general features of India's foreign trade during the twelve years from 1978-79 to 1989-90. The focus of all the trade policies has been to boost exports and constrict imports with due regard to the developmental and non-developmental requirements of the country.

Since the adoption of the new pattern of 3-year import-export policy in 1985, the export growth curve has been upward moving. The negative growth rate of 7.3 per cent in 1985-86 was reversed in the following year with a positive growth rate of 14.2 per cent. This uptrend continued in subsequent years and yet our performance compares very unfavourably with some developing countries such as China, Brazil, Korea and Thailand. India's exports account for half of one per cent of world's imports and seven per cent of the gross national product. The imports, too, have been showing consistently

increasing growth rates but relatively at a rapid pace during the last three years of the seventh five-year plan.

The increase in exports is not attributable entirely to the three-year exim policies. Much of it may be due to the changes in the exchange rates and other factors.

II. Policy Objectives

The principal objectives of the new exim policy are (1) to boost exports of both goods as well as services; (2) to facilitate developmental imports: inputs for sustaining industrial growth and capital goods imports for modernisation and technological upgradation; (3) simplification and rationalisation of procedures for import licensing and export promotion; (4) promotion of efficient import substitution and self-reliance.

III. Highlights

The new exim policy has, in essence, given the process of liberalization a fresh lease of life for three years with emphasis on increasing the net foreign exchange earnings. Care has been taken that the liberalised framework is not misused by the unscrupulous traders.

The salient features of the policy may be stated briefly as follows:

1. The open general licence (OGL) list has been enlarged with the addition of 82 capital goods (e.g., electronic instruments and machinery, textile machinery etc.) and 55 items of raw materials, components and consumables for actual users. The number of raw materials which can be imported under the OGL goes up to 870 from the present number of 817; of capital goods to 1343 from 1261 and of the restricted imports to 751 from 667. An era of, what has been called, 'super-OGL' has set in.

2. An automatic licensing scheme has been introduced so that export production is not held up for want of critical components.

3. A consolidated licence covering a period of three years will be issued in respect of specific spares.

4. To give a fillip to modernisation and upgradation, the research and development recognised units will be eligible to import machinery, equipment, raw materials and spares etc. under the OGL.

5. Import replenishment (REP) licensing scheme has been simplified considerably for export promotion purposes. Also, the REP licences have been made totally flexible and can be used to import non-OGL capital goods. This is to ensure diversification of production base and expose indigenous industries to international competition, price-wise and quality-wise.

6. For higher export of value-added products, import REP scheme for the registered exporters has been rationalised and the issue of licences simplified. The higher the export value addition, the higher the rate of REP under the new scheme. Emphasis is on value-added exports and such exporters are being encouraged or rewarded.

7. High export performance houses will continue to receive recognition. The qualifying threshold for the export house and trading house status has been increased to Rs 5 crore and Rs 20 crore, respectively while the star trading house—a new addition—it is Rs 75 crore or more of net foreign exchange earning annually. The earnings from service exports will also be reckoned for deciding the status of the export/trading house. Double weightage for exports from the small-scale sector will be continued.

8. A blanket advance licensing scheme has been introduced for the reputed manufacturer-exporters with a view to reducing the procedural irritants. This will also do away with the exim Pass Book scheme which was introduced initially in 1985 but failed to take off the ground. It has now been abolished.

IV. Comments

The industry and trade circles have applauded the new exim policy as highly liberal and pragmatic aiming at

injecting a substantial boost to production and export. The continuation of the liberalisation policy, adumbrated in the old edition of the policy framework, underscores the soundness of the basic philosophy of development and stability of the policy. As the Union Minister of Commerce, Mr Arun Nehru, put it, these measures will boost the economy and rectify the chronic trade imbalances.

The president of the Federation of Indian Chamber of Commerce and Industry has hailed the policy as an important and constructive step in promoting exports and balancing the trade position within a short time. Simplification of procedures, removal of discretionary controls, enlargement of OGL, blanket advance licensing scheme, rationalisation of REP licensing, automatic licensing for the import of raw materials and components are bold, innovative and imaginative measures expected to impart dynamism to exports.

As a result of the various provisions regarding the capital goods imports, the domestic capital goods industry will have to face international competition. Since most of the imports will be for the sunrise industries such as electronic goods these will have to increase efficiency in production for survival and profit-making.

To facilitate imports for the production of these elitist goods is inconsistent with the public statements of the National Front leaders expressing opposition to production of goods other than wage goods.

The new exim policy is solicitous to encourage export/trading houses. The eligibility norms for earning this status has been upgraded in terms of net foreign exchange earnings. A new category named 'star trading house' has been introduced with the floor limit of Rs 75 crore a year on an average. This norm is considered on the high side and it is recommended to be reduced to Rs 50 crore.

On the negative side, the Federation of Indian Export Organisation (FIEO) is of the view that the small-scale industries sector, which accounts for the bulk of India's exports but spends little of foreign exchange on imports, has received a step-motherly treatment in the new exim policy. It has provided ample facilities for imports by the large-scale industries ignoring the small-scale units.

The exim policy is, thus, opposed to the NF government's pronouncements that it stands for a high priority to the development and promotion of the small-scale industries.

The FIEO characterises the policy as "policy for imports, not for exports". This policy "does not tighten imports" comments editorially the *Economic Times*, adding that it has, on the contrary, loosened the grip of import quota.

It is feared that if the policy is not suitably amended, more than half of the recognised export houses will be "extinct", thanks to the revised criteria for their recognition. The new norms will inflict a setback rather than give a stimulus to soar high.

The exim policy has adversely affected the profitability of the exporters of the small-scale industry products.

The distinction between the various categories of exporters is fine-tuning the caste system.

The provision to allow exporters to import any product against a proportion of the value-added exports is a move towards super OGL. Like the software industry, other exporters also can import machinery at a 25 per cent tariff provided their exports are three times as much in value.

The views of some noted economists may be mentioned now. Ashok V. Desai recommends still further liberalization suggesting that import of any goods including consumer goods and gold may be allowed. Will not such a step counter the fundamental objective of bridging the trade gap. The provision for obtaining permission of the CCI & E for exports on OGL is "stupid", says Desai. Mr Surjit Bhalla says that the exim policy document is the recycled policy statement by the NF government which means that it (government) is a xerox copy of the old regime. He is of the view that liberalisation of trade policies is essentially tinkering forward and backward. The new policy contains only marginal changes and no radical reforms. He asks, and rightly, as to what is the rationale for the transfer of 17 capital goods from the OGL to the restrictive licensing category. Will it ease the BOP position? Are there any well-laid down economic norms to determine the placement of an item in a list? Or is it a matter of discretionary powers

of the bureaucracy or of the masters? Mr Rajiv Kumar sees no bias for import restriction as was expected from the NF leaders' public utterances. To achieve the objective of self-reliance (which, of course, is not elaborated in the policy) the fiscal, exim and industrial policies must be integrated into a coherent policy framework. In his view the five-fold categorisation of import licenses is indefensible. Tariff restriction should replace quota restriction system. The twin measures of non-listing of imports and tariff control in the case of capital goods imports would have contributed to the export promotion more than all other measures put together according to this economist. He holds that the exim policy fails in one important respect, namely, the role of foreign firms and MNCs in expanding India's intra-industry exports. The export obligation as a condition for liberal import entitlement has not been successful to contribute towards export promotion and should, therefore, have been replaced by export performance.

V. Conclusion:

Though India's export performance has shown impressive results in the recent past, we have still to go far. With no radical changes in the new exim policy, it is difficult to say whether the balance of payments situation, which is a cause of great concern, will improve in the near future. The fact that the prospect of a sizable amount of foreign aid forthcoming is bleak in the context of the recent meeting of the International Monetary Fund makes the position very disconcerting.

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India-Pak Dialogue Manoeuvre

In recent months, statements, counter-statements, offers and counter-offers have been made by leaders of India and Pakistan about a dialogue to avoid war. But these have proved fruitless. Most foreign countries blame India for stalling the offers for talks. Is India to blame for the present stalemate over the disputed issues? The proposition for discussion is: "India has placed itself in the wrong by refusing to open a dialogue with Pakistan on the current threats of conflict."

Mr A Sir, the recent tensions, the point counter-point rhetoric and the continuing threats of war have caused much concern to all peace-loving people in this country and abroad. Actually, we have been living in a state of great uncertainty as a result of the war clouds hovering over the sub-continent. Perhaps for the first time in the past few decades many foreign powers harbour the belief that India is not justified in refusing to open a dialogue with Pakistan in order to settle the differences over the interpretation of the 1972 Simla Agreement. Both countries have affirmed their commitment to the agreement which provides for bilateral negotiations to settle all pending disputes between India and Pakistan. Pakistan's Prime Minister, Ms Benazir Bhutto, and other spokesmen of the Islamabad regime have repeatedly urged Indian leaders to start a dialogue, but for reasons which are difficult for the common man to understand, the Indian Prime Minister has put his foot down on any such dialogue. He has asserted that since Kashmir is an integral part of India, all the developments in the Valley, including the subversive activities by the militants, are an internal affair of India and, therefore, Pakistan has no business to suggest another round of negotiations between the two countries. But it is clear to me, as I feel sure, it must be quite

clear to countless other people, that India's posture is inconsistent with its general policies which always advocate settlement of disputes through negotiations without the intervention of third parties. Why doesn't India adopt the same policy in respect of its own differences with its neighbour, especially because of the continuing danger of an armed conflict on the common borders? On May 24 this year the Pakistan Prime Minister renewed the offer of a dialogue to find a peaceful negotiated settlement of the vexed problems which have soured the relations between the two countries. But again India has rejected the offer and stuck to its rigid stand which does not, in my opinion, convince any rational section of society. I would even urge that India should itself invite Pakistan for a dialogue because this country stands for peace and has often affirmed its commitment to the spirit of the Simla Agreement. Without constant willingness to hold a dialogue with Pakistan, India's commitment to the Simla Agreement becomes meaningless. Why should we put ourselves in the wrong and become the object of criticism by others?

Mr B It seems to me that my predecessor, Mr A, has been carried away by the statements made in recent weeks by Pakistani and Western foreign leaders on the issue of Kashmir and other disputed matters. The basis of the current troubles are the continuing intervention of Pakistan in Indian affairs, its incitement to the militants in Kashmir Valley and Punjab, the training of terrorists in specially established camps in Pakistan territory, the ceaseless flow of sophisticated weapons to the militants, specially to create disorder in India's border region, the despatch of trouble-makers across the Indian borders and the refusal to take any action against the mischievous elements. All these are unfriendly acts and

do not accord well with the loudly professed policies of peace and amity often expounded by Pakistani leaders. Moreover, Islamabad spokesmen have been trying once again to internationalise the issue of Kashmir by raising it in international forums and inviting the intervention of foreign countries, one by one, in Indian affairs which the New Delhi authorities should be left free to handle in their own way and not under the dictation of outsiders. I feel convinced that India should not allow itself to become a victim of international diplomacy. The foreign powers do not really understand the intricacies of the Indian situation; they have only a superficial view of the problems facing us and they are more concerned about the need to avert a war than with the urgency of redressing wrongs and preventing encroachments on territory which is legally and constitutionally Indian but which greedy elements in Pakistan are eager to grab. Admittedly, Pakistan is quite adept in international diplomacy, in conducting an anti-Indian propaganda which proves successful because of the persistent prejudices in the minds of the foreigners and their soft corner for pliant, pro-West Pakistan. The reality is that because of domestic pressures, including the clamour of the Muslim fundamentalists, Islamabad leaders, notably Ms Benazir Bhutto, is compelled to adopt hawkish postures so as to divert the people's attention from the internal failures of the administration, the pressing social, economic and political problems which that country has lately been facing. India has unfortunately been a victim of Pakistani-sponsored terrorism to which foreign powers turn a blind eye. What is the basis for a dialogue when Pakistan continually violates the spirit of the Simla Agreement and queers the pitch for an amicable settlement? While talking of peace the Pakistan authorities continue to further ex-

pand their existing arrangements for training terrorists (India is the only field of their operations, there is no other). Pakistan must vacate the aggression if it is earnest about settling its differences with India through negotiations. There is little to be gained by the diplomatic manoeuvres in which Benazir Bhutto has been indulging.

Mr C Sir, neither my team leader, Mr A, who opened the discussion, nor I favour any surrender of territory to Pakistan. Our contention, which even our foreign friends regard as reasonable, is that India should discuss the points in dispute with Pakistani spokesmen in the spirit of the Simla Agreement. I do not imply that our country's policies adopted all these years are wrong. My contention is that the Indian Government should defend and explain its stand in clear terms so that the misunderstandings in the minds of foreigners are cleared and they begin to realise who is right and who is wrong. The formality of starting negotiations with Pakistan will not bring that country to the path of reason, nor persuade it to abandon its anti-Indian policies because these are prompted by extraneous factors and ulterior motives. But the point is that by expressing willingness to talk things over we would be able to justify our position in the eyes of outsiders. At any rate some of them are inclined to see reason and appreciate the realities. Refusal even to hold a dialogue does not at present convince them of the justice of our stand. As long as we adopt a rigid stand, refuse to start a dialogue and disallow any third party to study the situation or verify the allegations, the impression gains ground that our case is weak, that we have something to hide and that we are not amenable to reason and persuasion. Why should we continue to create this impression which brings us discredit? After all, we cannot afford to ignore foreign opinion; we are a member of the international community whose goodwill matters much.

Mr D Sir, I am surprised at the extent to which even patriotic people of this country allow themselves to be misled. My predecessor,

Mr C, and people of his way of thinking seem to have a very short memory. May I remind them of the bitter experience we have had of foreign intervention? The UN regularly passes resolutions, at the instance of Pakistan, calling for a plebiscite in the Kashmir Valley. How is it that the U.N. and other powers, especially the U.S. and its allies, do not strongly censure Pakistan for not fulfilling its obligation (under the same UN resolution) of creating the requisite climate for a plebiscite by vacating the territory (the so-called Azad Kashmir) under its illegal occupation? Why do the foreigners harp year after year on the portion of the UN resolution calling for a plebiscite in Kashmir Valley as if the non-fulfilment of the corresponding obligation by Pakistan does not matter? The clamour for the right of self-determination is, as India's External Affairs Minister I.K. Gujral has often pointed out at his press conferences and during the talks he had with the Pakistan Foreign Minister, is unwarranted. Nowhere in the modern world is such a right granted to people forming part of the country, and Jammu and Kashmir is very much a part of the Indian territory, as is clear from the Constitution of the Republic. The description of the trouble in Kashmir Valley as "a struggle for liberation" by the people is indeed absurd. Liberation from what? From the very country of which they are an integral part, or from Pakistan threats? India's standpoint is indirectly supported by the recent disapproval of Pakistani efforts to have the Kashmir issue put on UN agenda. This is also a recognition of the fact that Kashmir is a bilateral issue, not an international one as such. The Pakistanis have gone back on their words more than once. Again, it is surprising that Pakistani spokesmen and foreign leaders deliberately ignore the fact that several elections have been held in the J & K State, each of which should be taken to be a referendum on the issue. The vast majority of the people of Kashmir have indeed accepted the accession of the State to India as legal and final. The occasional outbursts by the militants are prompted by other factors. The Muslims of Kashmir Valley are by no means enamoured of

Pakistan; they know only too well that Pakistan's internal affairs are in a mess, that they cannot hope to get the basic rights and privileges which they now enjoy if they come under Pakistan's domination. These arguments do not, however, lend themselves to the interpretation that the activities of the militants and terrorists in Kashmir should be tolerated; all such anti-Indian elements must be suppressed with an iron hand. There must not be any complacency on this account. On the speedy restoration of peace in the State depends the future of the Indian sub-continent.

Mr E As usual, both sides have a point, or some points, which would carry conviction among the listeners. I would like to supplement the speakers' arguments by mentioning certain likely repercussions of the current, highly explosive situation. First, Pakistanis want to grab Kashmir, or at any rate to get it excluded from the Indian Union somehow. But they forget that a fundamentalist Kashmir is no substitute for the "Naya Kashmir" which every true Kashmiri has been anxious to build. Many Kashmiris feel convinced that accession of the State to Pakistan would mean the virtual death of Kashmir, Kashmiris and what is described as "Kashmiriat"—their distinct identity. Secondly, the belief that Islam is enough justification for disrupting the present regime and annexing the State for Pakistan, would certainly have disastrous consequences. India itself is facing a challenge from resurgent fundamentalists. The secular and progressive forces have to unite to fight the challenge. The people of Kashmir took the lead in 1947 to check the move to split the area on the basis of religion. Now is the time for Kashmiris to take the lead. The fight of the Kashmiris should be for democracy, not for oppression, cruelty and disruption for which Pakistan is notorious. The terrorists' aim is precisely what every patriotic Kashmiri should strive to avert in the interests of the land in which they live and which was once described as "a paradise on earth". The people themselves can help resolve the conflict instead of allowing gun-toting elements to dictate terms.

Argumentative Questions on Social and Economic Problems

The following questions were put in the Descriptive Paper for the Bank Probationary Officers' Examination held on April 29, 1990.

We are grateful to Shri Shankara Rao of Patna and the other readers who sent these questions to us.

Q. 1. All jobs in primary and secondary schools should be reserved for women. Do you agree? Explain your view in about 150 words advancing arguments in support thereof.

Ans. I do not agree with the view that all jobs in primary and secondary schools should be reserved for women, presumably in both boys and girls' institutions. Several issues arise in this regard.

First, what would happen to fully qualified male teachers? Would they be debarred, legally or otherwise, from joining the teaching profession for which many of them might have been preparing for years, by obtaining the B.Ed., B.A.B.T. or M.A.B.T. degrees.

Second, there would be the legal hurdle. The Constitution of India (Article 19) clearly provides for equality of opportunity for everyone and against discrimination between the sexes on any ground whatever. So there would in all probability be endless litigation; the courts would be flooded with writ petitions questioning the appointments of women to fill all posts of teachers in schools.

Thirdly, there are lakhs of primary and secondary schools spread all over this vast country. There are countless private schools too. It would be almost impossible to find enough women teachers for all posts in both boys and girls' schools. It might be possible to get women willing to serve as teachers, but employing inadequately qualified, inefficient, undeserving women as teachers would reduce the entire education system to a virtual farce. Vast sums of money are being spent on school education. Much of it would go waste if the

teachers are not fit to perform their duties and turn out to be merely time servers.

Fourth, if the education in schools is of a low standard because of ill-qualified women teachers, college and university instruction would also suffer. The foundations of good education, and hence of character building, are laid in schools. If that foundation is weak, the superstructure built in colleges and universities would be weak too.

Fifth, experience has shown that while women can teach languages and most of the arts subjects, they are generally not well up in science, physics and chemistry. Will the schools look for male teachers for these subjects?

Sixth, headmasters and principals often complain that, as a rule, the women teachers devote much of their duty time to knitting sweaters and other woollen articles for their husbands or children. They also have a tendency to engage in gossip and chit-chat with their colleagues, even during school hours. It has been noticed that they direct the students to study, write something and do sums while they themselves form themselves into groups, remain busy with their wool, discussing cardigan patterns, polishing their nails, criticising other women for their dress, their conduct in society, their life-style, hair-style, etc., all over cups of tea and snacks.

Seventh, if lakhs of women start working in schools in various capacities, their homes and their parents would remain neglected. Many of the latter need constant attention because of their advanced age and their ailments. The financial gains to the family through extensive employment of women members would be poor consolation.

Arguments in support of the view

A case can also be made out, though only partially, in favour of the view that all jobs in primary and

secondary schools should be given to women.

1. Women, with very few exceptions, possess virtues which are not so common among men, such as good character, honesty, and high standards of morality. They can make children into better citizens of tomorrow than men can. The latter are often corrupt and do not set good examples for pupils of impressionable age.

2. The argument that most women spend school time in knitting sweaters, etc., is only partially correct. If the head of the institution in which they work is a strict disciplinarian, she (or he) can check such practices and enforce the rules of conduct.

3. Nor is the contention that women do not possess adequate knowledge of technical subjects, such as chemistry, physics, and biology, quite convincing. If there are enough opportunities for teaching these subjects, women would surely qualify themselves in these courses also. They do have the requisite intellectual capacity for all branches of study.

4. Women are supposed to be soft, tender-hearted, loving in nature, the brightest things on earth and symbols of grace. But many believe there are more angry, frustrated women. Their torrent of words can never be matched by any man, their mind is unfathomable; they are veritable shrews.

CRICKET MATCH

Q. 2. Describe in about 150 words the scene at a cricket match. Your description should bring out the joy and sportive feelings pervading the atmosphere there

Ans. Every type of sport and almost all matches between teams have their ups and downs, besides thrilling moments. But in many ways, cricket leaves them way behind because of the glorious uncertainties for which it is famous. Even when there

were only three-day games or five-day Tests, the spectators' interest did not fade as the hours passed. The recently introduced one-day internationals (one-dayers, as they are now called), with a limited number of overs, has made cricket even more delightful and intensified sportive feelings. The suspense lasts until the last ball of the last over has been bowled. One never knows when a couple of wickets will fall in successive balls. A top class spinner or fast bowler's inspired spell can bring about a dramatic change in fortunes, and turn what looked like certain defeat into a creditable victory, complete with the champions trophy and the "Man of the Match" award for outstanding performance by a batsman, a bowler or an all-rounder. A hat-trick by a bowler adds to the excitement.

A cricket match between two evenly matched teams, especially when one of them is a foreign side, attracts a large crowd, including young girls who have lately developed considerable interest in this game. In fact, there are now full-fledged girls' cricket teams in India, England and a couple of other countries, which undertake regular tours like men's teams.

During many of the cricket matches I have seen the spectators sitting with eyes focussed on the pitch, on the bowler's arm movements and the batsman's hits and misses throughout the day, cheering every good hit and each fine bowling spell. The price of tickets has gone up, especially for high class international cricket matches, but the numerous lovers of cricket continue to patronise the matches and the stadium is generally full to capacity.

In recent years, however, the sale of tickets and the size of the crowd watching cricket contests have both fallen because of the live telecasts and radio commentaries arranged by Doordarshan and All India Radio. Thousands of people now prefer to save themselves the inconvenience of first going to the venue of the match or other advertised sale centres for buying tickets for themselves and their children. Then, there is the expenditure and inconvenience of going to the cricket ground, parking one's car or scooter in the prescribed enclosures, and at the end of the match taking their vehicle out of the crowd.

All this trouble is avoided these days by people, conveniently and

comfortably, watching the game, glued to their seats before their or their friends' TV sets free of cost. The live telecasts are good enough, especially because they repeat the crucial catches, fall of wickets and even fielding lapses, thus making the projections on the screen quite realistic, with none of the thrills, joy and tenseness missing. For instance, a Kapil Dev sixer is as enjoyable and thrilling on TV as on the ground. There are the runs and the hurrahs. Loud cheers are heard after every such feat. Overjoyed spectators often break the police cordon and run to the pitch to shake the fine player by the hand.

The umpires and others on duty at times find it difficult to check the intruders. There are also physical assaults on the white-coated umpires when they give a wrong or doubtful decision. The sporting spirit demands that the umpire's verdict must be respected without question. But in recent months there has been a tendency to criticise the umpires whose task become unenviable when the teams belong to rivals, such as India and Pakistan. Most people love to watch cricket. In fact during the cricket season (the winter months) office workers, clerks as well as superintendents keep transistor sets on their table, never mind the files!

But there are cynics too. They deplore the time spent in playing or watching cricket as a waste of time. A hockey or a football match is all over in an hour and a quarter, but a cricket match takes a whole day (for a limited overs game) and five days for a Test. These critics are the kill-joys and frown at youngsters going crazy over cricket. They contend that cricket is a rich man's game and hobby, a paradise of idlers. But such cynics are in a minority. They scoff at almost every type of outdoor activity.

The scene at the playground after the match is over often exposes the unhygienic habits of the spectators. They leave the ground in a repulsive condition, with groundnut shells, discarded, wrinkled ice-cream cups and cones, orange peelings and other such waste material all over the place instead of throwing them into the litter containers specially installed for the purpose.

Such things do not happen in England where cricket originated and where it is almost a national pastime.

Englishmen value cleanliness, and they know how to use public places. The Indian people have yet to learn sanitary habits and "play the game" in every sense.

FREE EDUCATION

Q. 3. "School education should be free in India." Give two arguments in Favour and two arguments Against this statement.

Ans. Universal education is one of India's cherished goals but it is a distant one, even though the 21st century is only a decade away. Because of the financial constraints, the colossal poverty which compels people to take children away from school and turn them into wage earners so as to supplement the family income. The National Policy on Education, adopted by Parliament in 1968, provides for free and compulsory education upto the age of 14 (the goal enshrined in India's Constitution). Although primary education is free all over the country and in almost all States and Union Territories even education up to the middle level is free, the progress of literacy is slow, the percentage of literate people being less than 40 at present. This means the vast majority of our people are illiterate.

Arguments in favour of free education

1. No country can make progress without educating all the people. So education must be made totally free; even a nominal fee should not be charged so that there should be no disincentive of any kind whatsoever. The education material, exercise-books, pens and pencils, etc, should also be supplied free of cost. In fact, some States have done well to offer incentives such as free food and free milk, during school hours. In parts of Haryana even some money is given to students for every day's attendance. Such incentives are essential in a poverty-stricken country such as India.

2. Education is much more important than anything else; without it children cannot become good citizens. Sound education helps greatly in reducing the crime rate, especially juvenile delinquency. Illiterate, ignorant youngsters are easily lured away by professional criminals and other lawless elements who exploit them and transform them into har-

dened criminals. Free school education would help prevent children from becoming permanent burdens to their families.

3. Care should, however, be taken to prevent free education from becoming a terrible mess. Casualness is a great evil in education, as indeed in other arenas of life in this country. As a consequence, our entire social structure has fallen a victim to criminality and vulgarity. Uneducated young men create a major law and order problem. Proper education in schools would almost certainly produce good, responsible citizens. It would also help raise the standard of education in colleges and universities.

Arguments Against the View

1. Free, compulsory education in schools should not be provided until the basic and colossal problems of poverty and destitution among the masses are effectively tackled. It is no secret that crores of people cannot afford to send their children to school even when education is free because to them supplementary income which their children bring by doing petty jobs in shops, *dhabas*, as domestic servants, or as helpers in farm operations, is indispensable. When starvation stares the people in the face, they need extra money to feed themselves. It is futile to offer them free school education.

So the effort should be concentrated on removal or alleviation of poverty by every possible means and also on provision of shelter. The immediate problems must come first, education for long-term building of careers later. The supply of food and milk at mid-day to children attending school only helps to fill children's stomachs once a day; it does not help to feed the elders, especially those who are physically handicapped in some way or are too old to work as daily or even casual labourers.

2. Experience of working of all schemes for free education shows that there is corruption among the administrators of funds earmarked for free education. The teachers take little interest in such schemes. Worse, there is a large percentage of drop-outs because of the need, to earn money somehow to buy the necessities of life. The high percentage of drop-outs (the figure was an alarming 76.6 per cent about three years ago) is in effect a national waste. To illiterate, ailing parents a few rupees

which a child of school-going age can earn every day by working somewhere are more important than anything else. The drop-out rate is also high because the education being imparted is unattractive and mostly theoretical. The schools are ill-equipped and lack basic facilities. Children of poor families have no facility of doing school work at home; leaking, broken roofs of the pathetic huts they have portray the stark reality. Nor can starving parents afford to engage tuition for their children.

IF THERE ARE NO TREES....

Q. 4. Suppose there are no trees on the Earth. Give, according to you, three important consequences if such situation arises.

Ans. Whether they constitute dense forests or form part of an orchard or stand along the roadside, trees are precious wealth of mankind in every country. Their utility is immense; their importance cannot be exaggerated. In fact, their continuous growth determines the course of our existence. It is difficult to imagine what the world would be like if there were no trees. The sorry plight of the people living near vast deserts, on other barren land, such as the extensive tracts in Rajasthan, and the treeless plains of Argentina in South America, has only to be seen to be believed.

Trees provide the eagerly sought greenery, the highly relished fruits, the indispensable wood for house building, the comforting roadside shade for human travellers and animals, especially in the summer months.

The principal consequences of the absence of trees would be:

One, the world would be deprived of all the greenery which imparts beauty to the earth and fruits and other products for the benefit of man. Bare brown, treeless and naked earth would soon become a vast, frightening and soul-chilling desert.

Two, trees hold the soil together with their roots and trunks. If trees disappear, loose earth would be blown hither and thither by strong winds and storms, spoiling our homes and making everything dirty. Mixed with water, this loose earth would create enormous mud and slush which would become a nuisance for everyone and make life a virtual nightmare.

Three, mankind would be deprived of fruits which only trees of various sizes can provide. Fruits are a great boon for humanity. They are necessary for good health; they provide the badly needed vitamins, the highly relished flavour and of course unique nourishment which cannot be obtained from any other source.

Four, in a treeless world we would have no wood for constructing roofs over our heads, no doors and windows and many other items made of wood, such as furniture. Plastic, synthetic fibres and cement cannot wholly replace wood, though in today's artificial world more and more of plastic and other such material is being used in place of wood.

Five, if there are no trees, there would be very little rainfall; the greenery and foliage attract rain clouds. And if the rainfall is scanty, agriculture and crops would be badly affected in several areas. Rivers and streams would be reduced to tiny streams, containing water flowing only from melted snow, wholly inadequate to meet the world's needs.

Much concern is being expressed all round at the rapid reduction in the forest cover of the earth. Reckless cutting of trees for commercial purposes, not accompanied by a corresponding planting of trees to make up the loss, is an offence since it denudes the earth of the vital green cover. The absence of trees would also cause more floods, more erosion of the precious earth through washing away of the top soil along with the nutrients, natural as well as artificial fertilisers.

Six, the billions and trillions of birds would have no place to build their nests and to take shelter from sun and rain if there are no trees. If, with the disappearance of trees, most of the birds also vanish, what a sorry spectacle the world would present!

Seven, even more serious would be the virtual loss of wildlife. Animals live only in forests. If the animals disappear, it would be a great tragedy.

Eight, the environment would be ruined. Tree leaves give out oxygen and absorb carbon dioxide. That is why cutting of trees is widely deplored.

The disappearance of trees would indeed be a calamity for mankind. Such an eventuality would gravely disrupt our social and economic structure.

MODEL PARAGRAPHS

'Compassion is more important than truth.'

—Mahatma Gandhi.

Compassion is candid and concrete where truth is abstract and absolute, the former is immediate whereas the latter is ultimate. Compassion heals the wounds that time inflicts on all of us every now and then. Both to the rustic as well as to the enlightened, charity is the basic ingredient of all religions. Truth without compassion is like the body without soul and vice versa. With so much suffering around and hell like haste consuming us, the crossing hand of sympathy comes like a rare gift of God. Of the worldly possessions that man cherishes and yearns for, there is none so enliven and lift us from the sordid and sorry state of life than the magic of compassion. Both saviours and scholars have impressed upon mankind the dire need of showing compassion to friends and foes alike. Truth is like running after the mirage but compassion is like sitting in the oasis. Milk of kindness flows not only from the gods, but it flows out of human hearts also. If one were to see the glory of God, it can be found among those who have dedicated themselves to the service of the sad, sorrowful and suffering humanity. Men of action can hope to realise truth when they have succeeded in wiping the tears from the eyes of those with whom they are bound by human ties.

"No great man ever complains of want of opportunity."

—Emerson.

Blaming the circumstances and ever coming new alibis for passivity and inertia, are the blunt weapons of those who complain of lack of opportunity and thus their dismal display in life. For a great man every moment is a chance and a challenge and seldom does he fail to catch the time by forelock. He is never caught napping nor is he even tempted to fault with his

milieu. The sterling test of his character is how he takes on the opportunity and makes the best use of it, no matter what the consequences are going to be. He never resorts to the usual trap of 'ifs and buts' but strikes when the moment is ripe and the target within grasp. 'There is a tide in the affairs of men' and only those who can swim with it, deserve to be crowned with success. For a great man, the opportunities keep knocking at his door to put him on his toes. There is always a battle to be won so that tomorrow is better than today. Living on past laurels is like breathing on charity and sporadic doses of praises and bouquets. Those who only want for an opportunity to show their might and mettle, end up in disappointment and despondency. 'Let no opportunity slip away even by over-sight or over-enthusiasm' is the passion, and pursuit of a great man.

'Grow old along with me! The best is yet to be.'

—Robert Browning.

If childhood is the bright and blooming dawn of life, old age is the stable spectrum of the evening symbolising the vagaries and vicissitudes of time and tide through which the odyssey of life has gone through. The wrinkles writ large, from head to foot, tell the tale of ups and downs, cheers and tears, hopes and fears. Grace lies in the fact that we grow old and still look forward to treading many a mile before retiring and resting. Old age has rightly been called the golden autumn because the age is crowned with marigold flowers of experience, maturity and wisdom. Among the galaxy of men and women that adorns the pages of human history, there are names and names of those who stand out prominently like the Pole Star, who in their times had defied the onslaught of time on their mortal frame. In the evening of their lives

they excelled both as human beings as well as creative artists. Age could not bend their iron determination to make the best of a bad bargain nor could it debase and distort their vision and versatility. Old age speaks and sparkles like the golden richness and mellow fruitfulness of time that has gone by. It is a folly to merely count the moments and wait for the grave because death can never be the desired destination of those who have shaped and sharpened the edges of life with their sweat and blood. "So I like best of all autumn." Lin Yutang.

'Laugh not too much; the witty man laughs least.'

—George Herbert.

Laughter is spontaneous and salubrious. It is the most welcome visitor of human heart. It is like a tonic that tones up drooping emotions and stooping spirits of one and all. But too much of laughter exposes us to ridicule and ribaldry of those who laugh the least but enjoy the most. Laughter is the fine food of human beings but excess of it can lead to emotional disturbance and distraction. It is said of the wise that with their wit and wisdom, they enlighten the dark and dingy paths of life. They are the ones who open the flood gates of axioms and maxims to give pleasure on a platter to those who heed to them. Men of clay as we are, we suffer from all possible foibles and feebleness of mind, brain and body. But still the God who has created everything, has also found for us such witty men and women as lighten the burden of life for us and show us His Glory in its pristine purity. They seldom waste themselves by laughing indiscriminately because they know that excess of laughter can prove fatal just as too much of anything proves harmful and hateful. If laughter, an invisible emotion, is good for health, the least expression of it, is better and the best for happiness.

The Art of Winning Good Luck

Meaning of Luck

The term 'luck' means (chance as bestower of) good or ill-fortune. It is also used to signify good luck or success due to chance. "Just my luck" means the negative-minded chap when something goes wrong, as usual. "Here comes another challenge", says the realistic tough-minded positive-thinking one in a similar situation.

The former subscribes to the superstitious belief in stars:

*It is the stars,
The stars above us govern our
condition.*

One day good luck actually knocked on the fellow's door. But the fellow didn't hear it. He was over at his neighbour telling a hard luck story. He ascribes the other fellow's success to his good luck. Some one asked the famous French writer Jean Cocteau if he believed in luck. "Certainly", he said, "how else do you explain the success of those you don't like."

The latter firmly believes that man is master of his fate.

Bad luck is a man standing with his hands in his pockets and a pipe in his mouth waiting how things will turn out. Good luck is a man of pluck, his sleeves rolled up, working to make things come out right.

Nothing Chancy

The mature man is convinced of the universal operation of the law of causation. Voltaire said "Chance is a word void of sense; nothing can exist without a cause." Einstein used to say that there is nothing chancy about the universe: "God doesn't play dice with the universe." It is a classic saying of Louis Pasteur's: "Fortune favours the prepared mind."

Blaming others

One of the key traits of the luckless is his insistence upon placing the blame on something or other than himself; a bad workman always blames his tools; a bad shearer never had a good sickle; the old lag blames

society; and the failure blames his environment or the system. It is all too easy to deny that the fault lies as a rule within ourselves.

The story goes that a junior member of a law firm carried his lunch. As soon as he unwrapped two sandwiches he looked at the contents and then threw them away with a wry face. Each day the performance was repeated. Finally, the office boy, who had observed this unvarying ritual could no longer restrain his curiosity. "Why", he asked, "do you throw away those perfectly good sandwiches?"

"Don't like marmalade or peanut butter", explained the junior lawyer.

"If you don't care for them, why don't you tell your wife?" suggested the helpful office boy.

"Can't" replied the lawyer succinctly, "I'm not married. I pack my own lunch."

In a realistic sense every man "picks his own lunch" and has only to thank himself if he doesn't relish the eats.

None is doomed to bad luck

Some persons think that they are doomed to ill-luck; that they were born under an unlucky star and there is little they can do about it. So they take steps to remedy matters: and this is to invite ill-luck. Actually nothing happens due purely to "bad luck"—not even accidents. Psychological research reveals that accidents don't "just happen". They are caused. Prof W.W. Ruch observes: "Many factors have been thought to play a role in accident causation, among them low intelligence, drinking, pre-occupation with emotional problems, poor driving skills, unclear highway signs, and faulty highway design." One study showed that poor personal and social adjustment was responsible for high accident frequency among taxi-cab drivers. Sir Walter Scott's wise-crack, "Accidents will happen in the best regulated families" is no better than a bromide.

"The plain truth is" says a

psychologist, "that many accidents, and many misfortunes are permitted to happen! Assuredly, it is puerile to blame the system, what is worse, it is futile."

Usually, people get the luck they deserve. The 12th century Indian classic "Hit-opdesh" puts it pithily:

"As from a lump of clay a workman makes whatever he pleases, in like manner a man obtains the destiny prepared by himself."

Each man is thus the architect of his own luck. Henley's lines express a psychologically valid truth:

*I am the master of my fate;
I am the captain of my soul.*

There are scores of examples showing people achieving personal conquest in spite of appalling limitations. They changed their luck by gathering together their abilities, every gram of pluck and purpose, and with a positive zest and confidence attacked their particular goal by inches. Pope was a hopeless invalid. Cervantes stuttered but he became a public speaker of remarkable power. Edison was deaf but perfected the phonograph. Milton, though blind, wrote England's greatest poem, "Paradise Lost". F.D. Roosevelt, crippled by polio became President of the United States four times. Beethoven, a musical genius of the highest order, had become deaf at the age of twenty-eight. In a letter to his friend Franz Wegeler, he said "I will take fate by the throat; it shall never wholly overcome me." Indeed as Albert Camus has it in his novel *The Myth of Sisyphus* (1955): "There is no fate that cannot be surmounted by scorn."

To put it in a nutshell, you hold your luck in your own hands. You are your own fairy god. You are your own hope. If you woo the Fortune with determination, guts, courage and steadiness you are sure to win her. Remember: faint heart never won far lady.

The art of winning good luck

The first technique in the art of winning good luck is to have a

positive and constructive goal. No human being can live in a condition of emptiness for very long; if he is not going forward towards something, he does not merely stagnate; the pent up potentialities turn into morbidity and despair and eventually into destructive activities.

Good luck is won by persistent hard work. It is said that Lord Northcliffe in a dinner table discussion was told by a lady that "Thackeray awoke one morning and found himself famous". Northcliffe replied promptly: "When that morning dawned, dear lady Thackeray had been writing eight hours a day for fifteen years. The man who wakes up one day to find himself famous hasn't been asleep."

Calm self-confidence magnetizes good luck. The ability to make up your mind inspires self-confidence, gives inner strength and a sense of direction.

"God is subtle but not malicious", said Einstein. There is no blind chance. Broadly speaking fate, destiny and luck hold out the same friendly or unfriendly hands to us all. We all have abilities and disabilities, likes and dislikes, problems and pleasures, convictions and doubts, hopes and fears and so on. It is what we do with these traits that differentiates the unlucky from the lucky, the failure from the successful. It is upto you to make full use of your attributes (i.e., self-knowledge). Along with your psychological insight they will determine your progress into purposeful, creative and positive living.

By passivity and negativity you simply deflect good luck. They are your deadly enemies. The more you decide, desire and act positively, the more you take charge of your responsibilities, the more easily comes mastery of luck. A biologist tells us how he watched an ant carrying a piece of straw which seemed a big burden for it. The ant came to a crack in the earth which was too wide for it to cross. It stood for a time as though pondering the situation, then put the straw across the crack and walked over upon it. Here is a lesson for you all! A man's burden can be made a bridge for his progress.

The realistic, down-to-earth, positive approach to a problem or crisis helps us to feel less annoyed, less bewildered and less ready to moan. "It always happen to me." We know it need not, when we have learned

that a confident do-something-about-it attitude is a prime condition of enjoying a purposeful and rewarding life.

Sensible Approach to Problems

Face your problems sensibly—confident of success. Accept the viewpoint that every problem has a solution and approach your problems in this spirit. When you come to face a problem, relax and don't panic. Try to face it objectively. Write down the facts. What possible solutions are there to that problem? Is there anything you yourself could do at this moment to solve it? If so, resolve to do it as soon as possible and act on your resolve. If there is nothing you can do about it presently, accept that fact. With the passing of time a solution may be found. At present it is impossible. Turn away from your problem knowing that you have done all you could do at this stage. If necessary, make a date in the future when you will consider it again. But don't carry it about you all the time. It is much more likely that your unconscious mind will work out a solution if you consciously turn away from it.

Have faith in yourself

A man's success in any enterprise is not the end-result of magic, miracle, or fluke. It is, by and large, the fruit of his iron faith in himself translated into action. People fail to make it because they lack dynamic faith in themselves.

Faith is the starting point of all achievements. It is the only antidote for failure. It is the magic formula, the open sesame to success. It does move mountains. "There is no fate that cannot be surmounted by scorn", says Albert Camus. This surmounting of fate is a positive triumph of faith in yourself. A man of unconquerable self-faith says, "To hell with fate." Says Dr W.W. Dyer, "You are worthy not because others says so, or because of what you accomplish or because of your achievements. Rather, you are worthy because you says so, because you believe it, and most importantly, because you ACT as if you are worthy." Faith is an indispensable condition of human life. Says the well-known psycho-analyst, Erich Fromm, "Faith in oneself is a condition of our ability to promise something and as Nietzsche pointed out, man can be defined by his capacity to promise, that is one of the conditions of human existence." No

man comes to the end of his rope until he loses faith in himself. Then, indeed his life "is bound in shallows and in miseries". With faith and fire in us, nothing is impossible; with them we build our destiny with our own hands.

Faith means trust and reliance or belief in ourselves. It cannot be adequately defined verbally. It can only be experienced. According to Vernon Howard, "Faith is what you are, faith is how you talk, faith is how you live, faith is action, not merely an isolated principle." It is one of the major positive emotions. It has also been defined as "a state of mind which may be induced or created by affirmation or repeated instructions to the subconscious mind, through the principle of auto-suggestion."

Self-faith being the magnet of success, it is worth your while to learn how to develop it and harness its tremendous power. This is especially important if, for any reason, you feel that you have lost your self-confidence or stopped to believe in yourself.

Good luck or bad luck in life is caused more by mental attitudes than by mental capacities. No situation is in itself a calamity to be feared. It is our reaction to it that makes it success or failure. Since attitudes can be changed, luck can also be changed.

Good luck is a victory not a gift. It is ladder not an escalator. It is not a mountain path at all. It is all rocky and bumpy and the bumps are what you climb on.

Blaming your faults on others or on 'my luck' or your own nature does not change the nature of your faults or your luck. Thus "I am like that", or "Just my luck", don't help. "I can be different", does.

You are your own star. You are responsible for what happens in the future no matter what has happened in the past. This is the substance of one of the most promising breakthroughs in psychiatry called Transactional Analysis originated by Dr Eric Berne.

Luck is not a temple but a workshop. It is action not prayer. Good luck does not fall from heaven like manna. You have to work for it, woo it, and win it.

TEST OF REASONING-I

The questions given in this feature were set in the General Intelligence Paper of Income-Tax Inspectors' Examination held in 1989.

We are indebted to Shri Arvind Kumar Verma of Kanpur for providing us these questions.

1. Priti scored more than Rahul. Yamuna scored as much as Divya. Lotika scored less than Manju. Rahul scored more than Yamuna. Manju scored less than Divya. Who scored the lowest?

- (a) Manju (b) Yamuna
(c) Lotika (d) Rahul

2. Children are having a 500 metre race. Mohan is ahead of Gunjan and Parveen. Parveen is ahead of Gunjan and Rohit. Gunjan is ahead of Rohit. Who is in the third place?

- (a) Rohit (b) Gunjan
(c) Parveen (d) Mohan

3. There are six houses in a row. Mr Lal has Mr Bhasin and Mr Sachdeva as neighbours. Mr Bhatia has Mr Gupta and Mr Sharma as neighbours. Mr Gupta's house is not next to Mr Bhasin or Mr Sachdeva and Mr Sharma does not live next to Mr Sachdeva. Who are Mr Bhasin's next door neighbours?

- (a) Mr Lal and Mr Bhatia
(b) Mr Lal and Mr Sachdeva
(c) Mr Sharma and Mr Lal (d) Only Mr Lal

4. Shehnaz wants to go to the market. She starts from her home which is in north and comes to the crossing. The road to her left ends in a park and straight ahead is the office complex. In which direction is the market?

- (a) East (b) West
(c) North (d) South

5. If the last four letters of the word 'CONCENTRATION' are written in reverse order followed by next two in the reverse order and next three in the reverse order and then followed by the first four in the reverse order, counting from the end, which letter would be eighth in the new arrangement?

- (a) N (b) T
(c) E (d) R

6. If 'ski rps tri' stands for 'nice Sunday morning', 'reh sti rps' stands for 'every Tuesday morning' and 'ski ptr qlm' stands for 'nice market place', what would 'Sunday' stand for?

- (a) ski (b) rps
(c) tri (d) qlm

7. If 'nitco sco tingo' stands for 'softer than flower', 'tingo rho mst' stands for 'sweet flower fragrance' and 'mst sco tmp' stands for 'sweet than smile', what would 'fragrance' stand for?

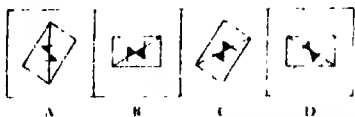
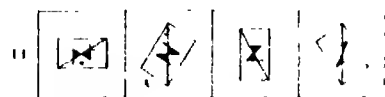
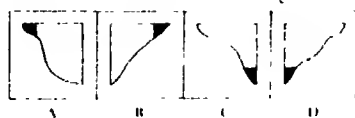
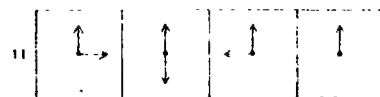
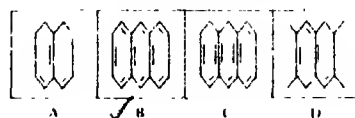
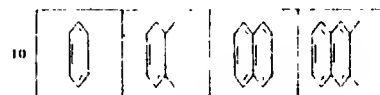
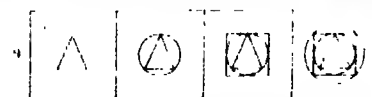
- (a) rho (b) mst
(c) tmp (d) sco

8. If 'gnr tag zog qmp' stands for 'Seoul Olympic Organising Committee', 'hyto gnr emf' stands for 'summer Olympic games' and 'esm sdr hyto' stands for 'modern

games history', what would 'summer' stand for?

- (a) hyto (b) gnr
(c) emf (d) zog

Directions: In each of the following questions (9 to 13), there are four problem figures and four answer figures. The figures in the problem set are arranged in a sequence. Choose a figure from amongst the answer figures which should come after the four problem figures on the left, if the sequence were continued.

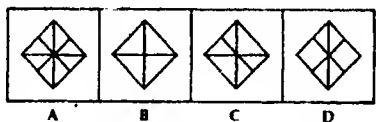
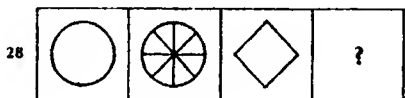
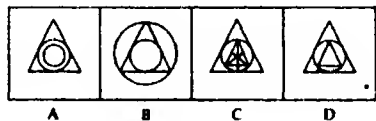
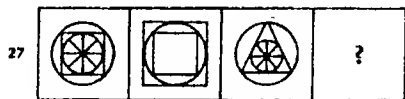
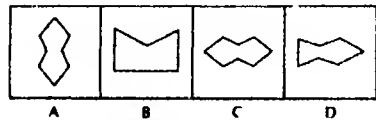
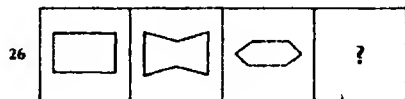
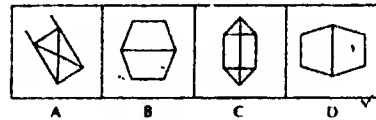
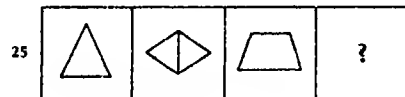
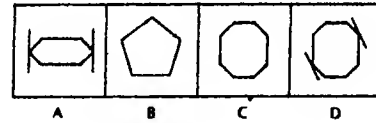


Directions: In each of the following questions (14 to 23) a related pair of words is followed by four numbered pairs of words. Select the numbered pair which 'BEST' expresses the relationship similar to that expressed in the original pair.

14. Mosquito : Malaria
 - (a) Tobacco : Cancer
 - (b) Housefly : Food
 - (c) Road : Accident
 - (d) Soil : Erosion
15. Doctor : Stethoscope
 - (a) Policeman : Thief
 - (b) Jailor : Prisoner
 - (c) Teacher : Student
 - (d) Mechanic : Tools
16. Bird : Cage
 - (a) Crime : Punishment
 - (b) Antique : Museum
 - (c) Thief : Prison
 - (d) Animals : Zoo
17. Liquor : Drink
 - (a) Bread : Jam
 - (b) Snuff : Inhale
 - (c) Clothes : Beauty
 - (d) Tea : Beverage
18. Artists : Troupe
 - (a) Captain : Team
 - (b) Fishes : Pond
 - (c) Market : Crowd
 - (d) Cattle : Herd
19. Pigeon : Peace
 - (a) Laurels : Victory
 - (b) White flag : Surrender
 - (c) Crown : Head
 - (d) War : Liberty
20. Scalp : Hair
 - (a) Nail : Nailpolish
 - (b) Horn : Cattle
 - (c) Farth : Grass
 - (d) Fur : Cap
21. Mountain : Height
 - (a) Valley : Beauty
 - (b) River : Water
 - (c) Moon : Shadow
 - (d) Cave : Depth
22. Inherit : Acquire
 - (a) Learn : Discover
 - (b) Loss : Gain
 - (c) Instinct : Habit
 - (d) Hierarchial : Succession
23. Coconut : Shell
 - (a) Stamp : Postage
 - (b) Nut : Crack
 - (c) Skin : Body
 - (d) Letter : Envelope

Directions: In the following questions (24 to 28) problem figures and answer figures are given. You are to study the relationship which exists between the first problem figure and the second problem figure and then the same relationship is to be established between the third and fourth. Choose the fourth figure from amongst the answer figures which holds the same relationship with

the third figure as it is between first and second figures.

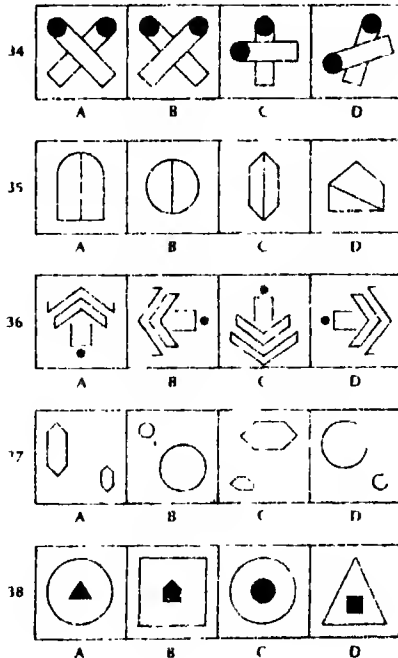


Directions: In each of the following questions (29 to 33) there are four words. Three of them are alike in a certain way, while one is different. Select the one which is different.

29. (a) Rectangle (b) Square
(c) Circle (d) Rhombus

30. (a) Bark
(c) Chirp
31. (a) Aluminium
(c) Brass
32. (a) Metre
(c) Litre
33. (a) Mars
(c) Saturn
- (b) Cry
(d) Roar
(b) Copper
(d) Brick
(b) Yard
(d) Inch
(b) Jupiter
(d) Sun

Directions: In each of the following questions (34 to 38) four figures are given. Of these figures, three are alike in a certain way and thus form a group. One of them is different. Your task is to identify that which is different from the remaining three.



Directions: The following questions (39 to 42) are based on the English Alphabet which is reproduced below. The letters have been used in different arrangements. Identify the arrangement to find out the answer.

A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z

39. If the word 'RADIO' is written as 'PYBGM', then how the word 'SCHOOL' would be written in that code?
(a) USQOON
(b) QAFMMJ
(c) PTFNNO
(d) QYFMMT

40. If the word 'PEARL' is written as 'MBXOI', then how the word 'DIAMOND' would be written in that code?
(a) AFXJLKA
(b) AFXJKLA
(c) AFXKLNA
(d) BGYKMKB

41. In a certain code BODY is written as APCZ how would DELHI be written in that code?
(a) CFKGI
(b) BFKGI

- (c) CFKIH
(d) CFKHI

42. If the word 'MENTAL' is written as 'LNDFMOSUZBKM' then how would the word 'TEST' be written in that code?

- (a) UVFGTUUV
(b) RSCDQRRS
(c) SUDFQSRM
(d) SUDFRTSU

Directions: In questions (43 to 46), there is a group of letters in each question. Three of them are alike in a certain way, while one is different. Choose the one which is different.

43. (a) HIB
(b) ZU
(c) NI
(d) TO
44. (a) CEI
(b) QSX
(c) ILP
(d) QSW
45. (a) ZXVT
(b) SQOM
(c) ECBA
(d) LJIF
46. (a) KMN
(b) ABDE
(c) PRST
(d) UWXY

Directions: Each of the following questions (47 to 51) has a matrix with a question mark in one block. Replace the question mark by choosing the correct response from amongst the alternatives given.

47.

A2	E4	I6
G3	J5	L
M5	O9	Q14

- (a) L10
(c) K8

- (b) K15
(d) J15

48.

K7	L4	M10
I8	M5	K12
M9	L6	T

- (a) K24
(c) K14

- (b) L14
(d) M14

49.

AZ	DW	GT
BY	EV	I
CX	FU	IR

- (a) JI
(b) HS
(c) KT
(d) AD

GENERAL INTELLIGENCE

50.

AC ₆	BD ₆	EG ₁₂
HJ ₁₈	KM ₂₀	I
QS ₇₆	TV ₃₈	WY ₇₆

- (a) NP₂₄
(c) NP₄₀

- (b) OQ₄₀
(d) PQ₆₈

51.

	L ₁₂	B ₂₁	
D ₁₉			A ₁₄
I	F ₆	G ₆	H ₁

- (a) F₂₁
(c) F₁₂

- (b) E₁₂
(d) H₈

Directions: Each of the following questions (52 to 57) has two statements followed by two conclusions I and II. You have to consider the two statements to be true, even if they seem to be at variance from commonly known facts. You are to decide which of the given conclusions definitely follows from the given statements. Indicate your answer as:

- (a) if only I follows.
(b) if only II follows.
(c) if neither I nor II follows.
(d) if both I and II follow

Statements:

52. 1. Mohan is twice as old as Ram.
2. Ram is half the age of Shyam.

Conclusions:

- I. Shyam is as old as Mohan.
II. Both Mohan and Shyam are older than Ram.

Statements:

53. 1. Some lions are tigers.
2. Some tigers are clever.

Conclusions:

- I. Some lions are clever.
II. All tigers are lions.

Statement:

54. 1. All young scientists are open-minded.
2. No open-minded men are superstitious.

Conclusions:

- I. No scientists are superstitious.
II. No young people are superstitious.

Statements:

55. 1. All scholars are genius.
2. No women are scholars.

Conclusions:

- I. No women are genius.
II. All genius are men.

Statements:

56. 1. All educated people read newspapers.
2. Mohan does not read newspaper.

Conclusions:

- I. Mohan is not educated.
II. Reading newspaper is not essential to be educated.

Statements:

57. 1. All lawyers are cheats.

2. Some women are lawyers.

Conclusions:

- I. Some women are cheats.
II. All cheats are women.

Directions: In the following questions (58 to 63) each question has a statement followed by two assumptions, I and II. You are to consider each statement and the assumptions that follow and decide that which of the assumptions is implicit in the statement. Indicate your answer as:

- (a) if only I is implicit.
(b) if only II is implicit.
(c) if neither I nor II is implicit.
(d) if both I and II are implicit.

Statement:

58. We should use detergent to clean objects.

Assumptions:

- I. Detergents help to dislodge grease and dirt.
II. Detergents form more lather.

Statement:

59. Every year doctors, scientists and engineers migrate from India to greener pastures.

Assumptions:

- I. Brain drain has affected India adversely.
II. Better scales and better standards of living act as a bait to lure them.

Statement:

60. Lack of stimulation in the first four or five years of life can have adverse consequences.

Assumptions:

- I. A great part of the development of observed intelligence occurs in the earliest years of life.
II. 50 per cent of the measurable intelligence at the age 17 is already predictable by the age of four.

Statement:

61. The Government is making efforts to boost Tourism in Jammu and Kashmir.

Assumptions:

- I. Tourism in Jammu and Kashmir dropped following political unrest.
II. Special discounts in the air fare have been announced.

Statement:

62. Children are influenced more by their teachers nowadays.

Assumptions:

- I. The children consider teachers as their models.
II. A large amount of children's time is spent in school.

Statement:

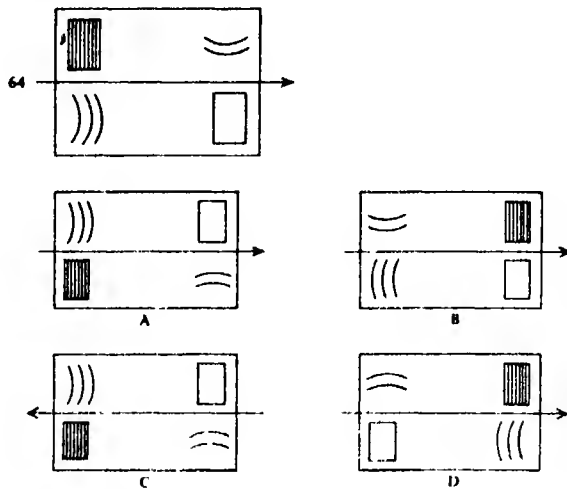
63. The improvement in the quality of TV programmes will lead to increase in the sales of TV.

Assumptions:

- I. TV is a good entertainment medium.
II. The quality of TV programmes has improved recently.

Directions: In questions (64 to 68), a group of letters, words or a figure is given, followed by four suggested answers. Choose the mirror image of the given figure, word or group of letters from the given alternatives.

GENERAL INTELLIGENCE



65. S N A C K

- (A) 2 N V C K
- (B) 2 H V C K
- (C) 5 H V C K
- (D) 2 H V C K

66. T 3 P 2 Y 5

- (A) 1 3 B 5 A 2
- (B) 1 E B 5 A 2
- (C) 1 3 B 5 A 5
- (D) 1 E B 5 A 5

67. S I M U L A T O R

- (A) 2 I W N T V 1 O R
- (B) 2 I W N T V 1 O R
- (C) 5 I W N T V 1 O R
- (D) 5 I W N T V 1 O R

68. D 6 Z 7 F 4

- (A) D 9 5 1 3 4
- (B) D 9 5 2 3 4
- (C) D 9 5 1 4 4
- (D) D 9 5 2 3 4

Directions. Each of the following questions (69 to 80) contains a problem and two statements giving certain information. Decide whether the information given in the statements is sufficient for answering the problems. Indicate your answer as:

- (a) if the statement I alone is needed to answer the problem.
- (b) if the statement II alone is needed to answer the problem.
- (c) if both statements I and II are needed to answer the problem.
- (d) if the statements I and II are not sufficient to answer the problem.

69. How many rooms does your house have?

- I. The number of rooms is the same as in your house.
- II. The number is sufficient to accommodate our family members.

70. Who is the best salesman in the company?

- I. Rohit sold maximum number of air-conditioners this summer.

II. The company made the highest profit this year.

71. What is the colour of the curtains on the stage?

- I. The curtains have the same colour as the walls of the Hall.

II. The colour of the curtains is quite appealing.

72. Who is a better artist — Abid or Hussain?

- I. Abid had more art exhibitions.

II. The number of paintings sold by Hussain is more.

73. Does television viewing affect the performance of students?

- I. The number of failures in Class XII is more this year.
- II. Television watching is harmful to the eyes.

74. Is cigarette smoking injurious to health?

- I. Non-smokers have a longer life-span.

II. The incidence of heart attacks is more in smokers.

75. Is the number of girl students more in the B.Ed course?

- I. The girls' performance in the annual examination is better than boys.

II. The proportion of female teachers have been increasing over the last two years.

76. Are women more emotional?

- I. Women believe that men's way of thinking cannot help them solve their problems.

II. The reality confronted by women is entirely different from the reality men have to struggle with.

77. Do habits make men's lives rigid?

- I. It is out of habit that people envy others.

II. Men become slave of habits.

78. Does intelligence predict the child's ability to learn?

- I. Intelligence is unaffected by bad teaching or dull home environment.

II. Children from poor home backgrounds do not do well in their school-work.

79. Can a democratic system operate without effective opposition?

- I. The opposition is indispensable.

II. A good statesman always learns more from his opponents than from his fervent supporters.

80. Has decrease in infant mortality rate increased the life-span of human beings?

- I. The average life-span of tribals is 85 years.

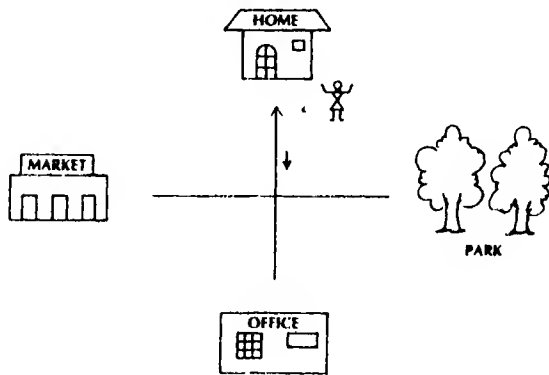
II. Women outlive men in younger age groups.

ANSWERS AND EXPLANATIONS

1. (c) Award the candidates any imaginary percentage:

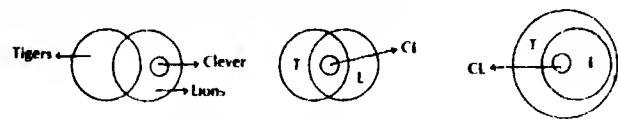
Priti	Divya	Manju	Lotika	Rahul	Yamuna
80%	60%	50%	40%	70%	60%
2. (b) Imagine the children on the track and mark their imaginary places:

Mohan	Gunjan	Parveen	Rohit
400 mt	300 mt	350 mt	250 mt
3. (c) The only possibility is as follows:
Sachdev : Lal : Bhasin : Sharma : Bhatia : Gupta.
4. (b) The position of places mentioned is as follows:



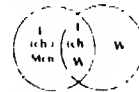
5. (d) The arrangement of letters would be NOITARTNEC-NOC for answers to questions 6 to 8, sort out common words and corresponding codes.
6. (c) 7. (a) 8. (c)
9. C. The added figure outside the circle has one arm extra e.g. triangle : square : pentagon.
10. B. Half figure should be completed with similar pattern of lines.
11. B. One needle moves clockwise covering a quarter.
12. D. The figure rotates anti-clockwise with slight changes in the curve.
13. B. The rotation of the figure is anti-clockwise.
14. (a) The relationship is that of cause and effect.
15. (d) The relationship is that of person and his special equipment.
16. (d) Birds and animals are imprisoned in cage/zoo for no fault of theirs just for our fun.
17. (d) The relationship is that of an item and the category to which it belongs.
18. (d) The relationship is that of identical type of members and the special name assigned to their group.
19. (a) The first are the emblems of the second.
20. (c) The relationship is that of base and the natural growth that covers it.
21. (d) Both have the same association.
22. (d) The relationship is that of legal order and receiving.
23. (d) The first one is safely covered in the other.
24. C. Straight lines disappear and the main figure has two extra sides.
25. D. The figure tilts and its replica is added along the same base.
26. C. The main figure narrows down in the middle.
27. D. Bars disappear and the figures have reverse arrangement.
28. A. The figures have four straight lines drawn across them.
29. (c) All the other figures have straight lines.
30. (b) All the others are associated with words related to special sounds made by birds or animals.
31. (d) All the others are metals.
32. (c) All the others are associated with length.
33. (d) All the others are planets.
34. D. All the other sticks cross each other at right angles.
35. D. The other figures have been divided in two equal parts.
36. C. The pattern is different.
37. C. The mini figure ought to be identical.
38. C. The figure inside should be different from the outer one.
39. (b) There is gap of one letter.

40. (a) The gap is of two letters.
41. (c) The arrangement has one preceding and next following letters.
42. (d) Each letter is represented by its preceding and following letters.
43. (a) 44. (b) 45. (c) 46. (b)
47. (c) Each next letter has gap of one and the last number is the total of preceding numbers.
48. (c) Letters used are K, L and M and the last number is the total of one + two - 1.
49. (b) Letters have gap of two from beginning and end.
50. (c) The next arrangement of letters begins with dropped letter and has gap of one. The last number is the total + 2 of first and second numbers.
51. (b) Letters have anti-clockwise arrangement and numbers (3, 6, 9, 12, 15...) clockwise.
52. (d) The ages are Ram : x; Mohan 2x and Shyam - 2x.
53. (c) The possibilities are as follows:



Hence nothing can be stated with certainty.

54. (a) It is not stated that every young person is a scientist.
55. (c) It is not stated that only scholars are genius. Others could be genius as well and it could include women as well.
56. (a) Only I follows.
57. (a) The II one does not follow.



58. (d) Since both I and II are essential for cleaning both are implicit.
59. (d) Both the assumptions imply.
60. (a) The second assumption deals with an entirely different phase.
61. (a) The second assumption is not very definite.
62. (d) Both the assumptions are implicit.
63. (b) The first assumption is rather general.
64. A. 65. D. 66. A. 67. B. 68. C.
69. (a) The second one seems an attempt to side-track the question.
70. (a) I seems to answer the question completely.
71. (a) The question needs a specific answer and only I provides it to persons who are familiar with the colour of the hall but are curious to know the colour of the curtain.
72. (b) The second statement points out the popularity of the artist. Having exhibitions is a bit personal.
73. (d) Statement I could be due to some other reason as well and 'performance' is a specific term so even II is not sufficient to answer it.
74. (b) I could not be confirmed and II answers the question to some extent.
75. (b) Performance does not depend upon number as has been stated in I.
76. (d) Both the statements have nothing to do with emotions.
77. (b) I is rather haphazard.
78. (d) Both I and II have nothing to do with learning.
79. (c) Both I and II are equally strong.
80. (d) The facts stated in I and II have nothing to do with question.

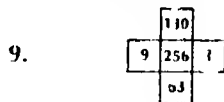
TEST OF REASONING-II

NUMBER SERIES

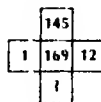
Find out the missing number in the series of numbers given below:

1. 96; 93; 89; 86; 82; 79;
2. 7; 15; 31; 63; ...; 255.
3. 4; 6; 9; 13.5; ...; 12; 10; 15.
4. 7; 21; 3; 24; ...; 32; 4.
5. 8; 9; 11; 15; 23;
6. 28; 57; 29; 60; 31; ...; 42.
7. 35; 72; 42; 64; 49; ...
8. 24; 39; 36; ...; 48; 65; 60; 78.

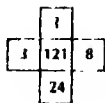
In questions 9 to 12, the arrangement of numbers follows the same pattern. Your task is to find out missing numbers in each one.



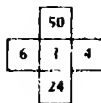
10.



11.

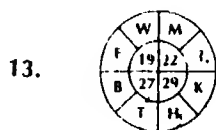


12.



LETTER SERIES

Find out the missing letters in questions given below:



14.



In the following questions, one set of letters does not belong to the group. Find it out.

15. (a) Chm (b) Lqw (c) Oty
(d) Puz
16. (a) jFh (b) tPr (c) yUw
(d) uRt
17. (a) E15J (b) 814L (c) D13H
(d) G20M
18. (a) PT18 (b) MI11 (c) VZ24
(d) PU19

ODD-MAN

Find the odd-man out:

19. (a) Simla
(b) Ooty
(c) Dehradun
(d) Kulu
(e) Darjeeling
20. (a) monkey
(b) cat
(c) python
(d) bison
(e) reindeer
21. (a) onion
(b) tomato
(c) potato
(d) turnip
(e) garlic
22. (a) Moscow
(b) London
(c) Paris
(d) Tokyo
(e) New York

LEXICAL ITEMS

Find out three-letter words for brackets which could be added to sets of letters on left and right to form words.

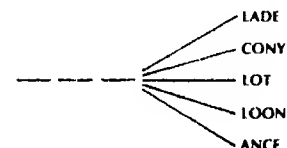
Example: INT(ACT)ION

23. COM()TLE

24. CAR()ATION

Which set of three letters can be added to all the following to form words:

25.



CODING-DECODING

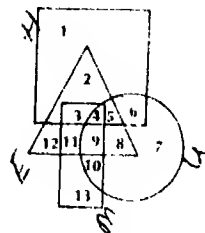
In questions given below, words on the left are written in their coded form on their right, each letter representing one letter of the word. Your task is to find out the right code for letters in box.

26. U O R U M
(a) f (b) b (c) y (d) h
(e) m (f) b
27. R E M I D
(a) p (b) g (c) h (d) x
(e) y (f) v
28. M U I N Y
(a) b (b) h (c) l (d) g

- (e) v (f) k
29. T O W A R **D**
- (a) x (b) y (c) z (d) n
- (e) f (f) k
30. W A I T E **R**
- (a) v (b) p (c) k (d) y
- (e) n (f) z
31. C R O **W** D S
- (a) j (b) w (c) n (d) y
- (e) f (f) x
32. **S** A T I R E
- (a) k (b) z (c) p (d) j
- (e) v (f) y

LOGICAL DEDUCTIONS

The figure given below depicts an area where people speak four languages. The triangle depicts English speaking area, the square Hindi speaking area, the circle stands for Urdu speaking area and the rectangle for area where people speak Marathi. Each part is numbered. Your task is to study the figure and answer the questions that follows:



33. Which number depicts English, Urdu and Marathi speaking area?
- (a) 4
(b) 11
(c) 9
(d) 8
34. Number 2 depicts:
- (a) English and Hindi speaking area
(b) Only English speaking area
(c) Hindi and Marathi speaking area
(d) English and Marathi speaking area
35. Which number depicts Marathi, English and Hindi speaking area?
- (a) 4
(b) 5
(c) 9
(d) 3

Four businessmen Anand, Bhuvan, Chandra and Dhruv export carpets, spices, jewels and clothes to U.S.A., Australia, Canada and Japan but not in the same order. Your task is to study the following statements and match the right parts.

Anand does not send his goods to U.S.A. or Australia nor does he deal in spices or carpets.

Chandra and Dhruv do not send their goods to Canada and they do not deal in jewels or spices.

Person dealing in jewels does not send them to Japan. Spices are not sent to Japan or Australia. Clothes are not sent to Australia. Dhruv has no dealings with Japan nor Bhuvan with Canada.

36. Anand (A) U.S.A. (a) carpets
37. Bhuvan (B) Australia (b) spices
38. Chandra (C) Canada (c) jewels
39. Dhruv (D) Japan (d) clothes

Letters from A to G (7) have been arranged in a line in the following way:

D is between A and B.

C and G have two letters between them.

F is to the left of C.

G is between E and A.

40. Which letter is on the extreme left?
41. Which letter is exactly in the middle?
42. X is seven times older than Y; after 5 years Y's age would be one fourth of X's age. What is X's age now?
- (a) 14
(b) 28
(c) 35
(d) 70

In one day cricket-match, A scored 14 runs more than B who scored 13 runs more than D. C's score was double of D who made 41 runs more than E. If E made 13 runs:

43. How many runs did A make?
- (a) 81
(b) 85
(c) 79
(d) 77
44. What was the total number of runs made by the five players?
- (a) 323
(b) 339
(c) 297
(d) 307

LOGICAL DIAGRAMS

In the questions given below, items in questions are depicted by sets of circles on the basis of relationship among items. Your task is to match the right set of items with corresponding set of circles. The size of the circles does not matter.

45. dettol : anti-septic : burnol



46. mothers : fat : fathers



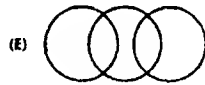
47. shell : apple : nut



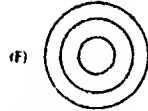
48. clock : dial : numbers



49. injection : syrup : pill



50. vegetable : potato : rotten



ANSWERS AND EXPLANATIONS

1. 75. Go on deducting 3 and 4 by turns.
2. 127. Each next number is $(n \times 2) + 1$ of the preceding number.
3. 8. The numbers are sets of twos. The second number is $1\frac{1}{2}$ times of the first number.
4. 8. Each second number is the product of numbers on its right and left.
5. 39. The numbers have difference of 1, 2, 4, 8, 16 ...
6. 73. Each alternate number is the total of numbers on its right and left.
7. 56. There are two series, one with a difference of 7 (35, 42, 49 ...) and the other with a difference of 8.
8. 52. Again there are two series. One consists of the table of 12 and the other that of 13.
9. 7. Example: $7 \times 9 = 63$; $(7 + 9)^2 = 256$; $7^2 + 9^2 = 130$ (49 + 81).
10. 12
11. 73
12. 100
13. N. Give letters' values according to their position in the alphabetical order. $M + N = 27$; $H + K = 19$; $B + T = 22$ and $F + W = 29$.
14. P. Move anti-clockwise and go on deducting the values of second letter from the first and you get the number near them. Example. $R - A = 17$...
15. (b)
16. (d)

17. (c) ($D + H = 12$)

18. (d) (average)

19. (c) All the others are hill stations.

20. (c) It is the only reptile among four-legged animals.

21. (b) All the others are root vegetables.

22. (e) All the others are capitals.

23. BAT

24. ROT

25. BAL

26. to 32. Go on sorting out common letters and match them with corresponding codes.

26. (e)

27. (b)

28. (f)

29. (a)

30. (d)

31. (c)

32. (d)

33. (c)

34. (a)

35. (d)

36. Cc

37. Ab

38. Dd

39. Ba

40. B

41. G

42. (c)

43. (a)

44. (a)

45. C. Both are anti-septics.

46. E. Some mothers and some fathers are fat.

47. A. Nuts have shells around them but apple does not belong to that category.

48. F. Dials are in clocks and numbers on dials.

49. D. All are independent items.

50. B. Potatoes are one of the vegetables and some of both may be rotten.

TEST OF REASONING

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TEST OF REASONING-III

SYLLOGISM

TYPE I

In the following statements, a situation has been explained in a few sentences followed by a conclusion. You have to say whether the conclusion;

- (a) necessarily follows from the statements.
- (b) is only a long drawn one.
- (c) definitely does not follow from the statements.
- (d) is doubtful, as the data provided is inadequate.

Note: Your answers should only be in the light of the statements given.

Statements:

- (1) 1. Doctor Prakash puts on spectacles.
- 2. Doctor Diwan puts on spectacles.
- 3. My nephew is a doctor.

Conclusion: My nephew puts on spectacles.

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐

Statements:

- (2) 1. Big tycoons generally swallow up small enterprises.
- 2. Mr Agrawal has just started a small scale industry.

Conclusion: Big industrialists would not allow it to grow.

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐

Statements:

- (3) 1. Kidnappers always kill the victims if their demands and conditions are not fulfilled.
- 2. Mr X has been released by the kidnappers.

Conclusion: The party concerned did not agree to pay what they demanded.

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐

Statements:

- (4) 1. Communist country 'A' had a revolution and turned democratic.
- 2. Some of its neighbouring communist countries also adopted democracy.

Conclusion: Some countries have lost faith in communism.

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐

Statements:

- (5) 1. Heads of States go to visit neighbouring countries.
- 2. The others return their visits simultaneously.

Conclusion: Friendly relations with neighbours are based on principals of reciprocity.

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐

Statements:

- (6) 1. About a fifty years ago, young cine-goers were regarded as dissolute.
- 2. Nowadays, a young person who is ignorant about the film world is considered backward.

Conclusion: In 1940s, films were rather vulgar.

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐

Statements:

- (7) 1. It is natural for children to revolt against strict disciplinary rules.
- 2. Pintoo never revolts against strict rules.

Conclusion: Pintoo is an abnormal child.

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐

TYPE II

In making decisions about important questions, it is desirable to be able to distinguish between 'strong' arguments and 'weak' arguments so far as they are concerned with the question. 'Weak' arguments may not be directly related to the question, may be of minor importance or may be related to some trivial aspect of the question. Each question given below is followed by two arguments numbered I and II. You have to decide which of the arguments is 'strong' and which is 'weak'. Then decide which of the answers given below and numbered (a), (b), (c), (d) and (e) is the correct answer.

- (a) Only I is strong.
- (b) Only II is strong.
- (c) Both I and II are strong.
- (d) Either I or II is strong.
- (e) Neither I nor II is strong.

8. Is letter writing an art?

- I. Yes, artists write beautiful letters.
- II. No, letters only contain information.

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

9. Should education be job oriented?

- I. Yes, the ultimate aim of education is to prepare a young person for the role which is most suitable to him.
- II. No, the main aim of education is to enlighten a person.

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

10. Will man ever land on Mars?

- I. Yes, the scientific inventions and undaunted adventurous spirit of man will positively make him do so.
- II. No, the atmosphere is not at all favourable and the planet has nothing exciting to interest man.

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

11. Should one read birthday forecasts?

- I. Yes, by reading the forecasts he knows exactly what is in store for him.
- II. No, if one takes them seriously, they might influence him adversely.

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

12. Are riots invoked by foreign agencies?

- I. Yes, otherwise people living together for generations can't suddenly become blood-thirsty unless invoked by someone.

II. No, when people live together they always fight.

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

13. Are summers healthier than winters?

I. Yes, we sweat more.

II. No, the heat is unbearable.

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

14. Are cheap cosmetics harmful?

I. Yes, the material used in manufacturing them is of poor quality.

II. No, they save money.

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

TYPE III

In the questions given below, assertion A is followed by reasons RI and RII. Apply I and II to A and tick-mark your answers as follows:

(a) Only RI is the reason for A.

(b) Only RII is the reason for A.

(c) Both RI and RII are reasons for A.

(d) Either RI or RII is the reason for A.

(e) Neither RI nor RII is the reason for A.

15. A. Most of our sacred books are more worshipped than actually read.

RI. They are written in a difficult language.

RII. They are pretty expensive.

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

16. A. Dream sequences in cinemas are very costly affairs.

RI. No one ever dreams of being poor.

RII. Creating the unreal world of fantasy on the screen is not an easy job and costs much.

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

17. A. Tax-payers constantly scan for alternative tax-relief schemes.

RI. It is better to invest the money in schemes than paying it in taxes.

RII. These schemes save the customers from paying income tax and other taxes.

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

18. A. When the villain of the story is beaten, the auditorium resounds with whistle, claps and thumping of feet or seats.

RI. The emotional audience believes in tit for tat.

RII. Auditoriums do not have a proper sound system.

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

19. A. Mr Attenborough's 'Gandhi' has proved to be a great success throughout the world.

RI. Gandhiji is respected all over the world for the values he lived for.

RII. The film had all the 'masala' that is needed for box-office hit.

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

20. A. Loud and painful noise caused environmental pollution.

RI. These sounds are produced by heavy vehicles and machines.

RII. Such sounds have destructive anatomical effects.

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

TYPE IV

In questions given below, statements 1 and 2 are followed by conclusions I and II. Taking the statements to be true although they may seem at variance with commonly accepted facts, mark your answers as under:

(a) Only I follows.

(b) Only II follows.

(c) Both I and II follow.

(d) Either I or II follows.

(e) Neither I nor II follows.

Statements:

21. 1. Only those magazines print matrimonial ads which have a low sale.

2. Only those magazines have high sale which give coverage to political stunts.

Conclusions:

I. Magazines that publish political stunts have matrimonial ads too.

II. Magazines that have columns for matrimonial ads do not publish stuff like political stunts.

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

Statements:

22. 1. All school girls put on black skirts while college students put on red blouses.

2. Reeta, a student, is wearing a red blouse and a black skirt.

Conclusions:

I. Reeta is a college student.

II. She is a school girl.

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

Statements:

23. 1. All dance performers are graceful.

2. Kamla is extremely graceful.

Conclusions:

I. Kamla is a dancer.

II. Kamla is not a dancer.

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

Statements:

24. 1. Some bulbs are bats.

2. All balls are bats.

Conclusions:

I. Some bulbs are bats.

II. Some bats are balls.

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

Statements:

25. 1. All cheats who did not tell a lie were sent to prison.

2. All the prisoners who did not speak the truth were tall.

Conclusions:

I. All cheats were tall.

II. All those cheats, who told the truth were set free.

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

TYPE V

In questions 26 to 30, Assumption 'A' is followed by Reason 'R'. Study them carefully and tick mark your answers as under:

- (a) 'A' is right and 'R' is the reason for it.
 (b) 'A' is right but 'R' is wrong.
 (c) Both 'A' and 'R' are right but 'R' is not the reason for it.
 (d) 'R' is right and 'A' is wrong.
 (e) Both 'A' and 'R' are wrong.
26. A. Some young men give active support for rioting and anti-government demonstrations.
 R. These young men are possessed with anti-national feelings.
 (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐
27. A. Science encourages satisfaction and contentment.
 R. Science means an eternal quest for new phenomena.
 (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐
28. A. Poor quality of half-famished man-power cannot make a nation strong.
 R. Only physically strong persons are faithful to the country.
 (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐
29. A. No new weapons have been invented since world war II.
 R. Scientists are too busy to think about weapons.
 (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐
30. A. Booth-capturing leads to repoll in the area concerned.
 R. All politicians believe in fair elections.
 (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

TYPE VI

At the end of the passage given below, some conclusions have been drawn. On the basis of the study of the paragraph, mark your answers as under:

- A. Definitely true.
 B. Probably true.
 C. Can't say as the data provided is inadequate.
 D. Probably false.
 E. Definitely false.

In order to reduce the heavy load that a stone-tower would have put on the main structure, the designer of the 800-year old Ramappa Temple manufactured an ingenious type of bricks which were so much lighter than the ordinary bricks that they floated on water. The spongy bricks, more porous and much lighter, were made of a balanced mixture of clay and sawdust burnt in a kiln, the sawdust rendering the bricks spongy and weighing about one fourth to one third of the conventional bricks of the same size, which considerably reduced the load of the tower on the main building and thus ensured its stability. 200 km northeast of Hyderabad, the temple was built by a general Recherla Rudra and enshrines the image of Lord Shiva. Interestingly the temple is not known by the name of its deity or builder but by the name of its designer, Ramappa.

31. The main building was unable to bear the weight of a stone tower.

- A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐

32. The spongy bricks are not as strong as the clay bricks.

- A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐

33. The spongy bricks were cheaper than the clay bricks.

- A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐

34. Ramappa, the designer is more respected than the builder.

- A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐

35. Such spongy bricks are made these days as well.

- A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐

ANSWERS AND EXPLANATIONS

1. (c) Two examples are not enough for generalization.
2. (d) The word generally makes the conclusion doubtful.
3. (c) The statements are rather definite ones.
4. (a) The conclusion is in confirmation with the statements.
5. (a) The conclusion is positively derived from the situation.
6. (b) There could be other reasons, hence long.
7. (a) The conclusion follows from the statements.
8. (e) Both the answers are off the track.
9. (a) The first argument is stronger.
10. (d) Only either of the two could happen.
11. (b) The first one is related to a trivial aspect-guess work.
12. (a) The second one is too general to be related to question directly.
13. (e) Neither is very convincing.
14. (a) The second one is related to an unimportant aspect.
15. (e)
16. (b)
17. (c)
18. (a)
19. (a)
20. (b)
21. (b)
22. (d) She could be either of the two.
23. (d) It is not stated that persons who are not graceful could not be dancers, so it could be either.
24. (c)

MATRI ADS LOW SALE

POL STUNTS HIGH SALE



25. (e) Neither of the conclusion follows. All who told the truth were sent to prison and they were not tall.
26. (a)
27. (d)
28. (b)
29. (e)
30. (b)
31. B. Probably true otherwise the designer would have used stone or clay-bricks.
32. D. The temple is 800-year old so there is a probability of the conclusion being wrong.
33. C. Nothing has been stated regarding their rates.
34. A. The temple is bearing the name of the designer.
35. C. No, we have no such information.

Quantitative Aptitude

The questions given below have been selected from the previous papers of the Clerks' Grade Examination.

We are grateful to our numerous readers who sent these question papers to us.

- The decimal equivalent of $1\frac{3}{100}$ is:
(a) 0.13 (b) 1.3 (c) 1.03 (d) 1.003
(e) None of these
- The number 5005 can be expressed into its prime factor as:
(a) $11 \times 13 \times 35$ (b) $5 \times 77 \times 13$
(c) $5 \times 7 \times 11 \times 13$ (d) $5 \times 7 \times 143$
(e) None of these
- A rough estimate of 28.77×12.11 is:
(a) 350 (b) 336 (c) 351 (d) 348
(e) None of these
- The HCF and LCM of two numbers are 12 and 144 respectively. If one of the number is 36, the other number is:
(a) 4 (b) 48 (c) 72 (d) 432
(e) None of these
- The value of $(4^3)^4 \div (4^2)^3$ is:
(a) 4^{12} (b) 4^{11} (c) 4^{10} (d) 4^6
(e) None of these
- The missing figure in 258^*4 if it is to be divided by 9 is:
(a) 1 (b) 6 (c) 7 (d) 8
(e) None of these
- The greatest 4-digit number exactly divisible by 88 is:
(a) 8888 (b) 9768 (c) 9944 (d) 9988
(e) None of these
- The value of $[2-3(2-3)-1] + 1$ is:
(a) 5 (b) -5 (c) $\frac{1}{5}$ (d) $-\frac{1}{5}$
(e) None of these
- A boy was asked to multiply a number by $\frac{5}{7}$. Instead he divided the number by $\frac{5}{7}$ and got the answer $\frac{24}{5}$ more than what he should have got if he had multiplied the number by $\frac{5}{7}$. The number is:
(a) 5 (b) 7 (c) 17 (d) 24
(e) None of these
- The mean proportion of $\frac{1}{16}$ and $\frac{4}{25}$ is:

- (a) $\frac{1}{10}$ (b) $\frac{1}{100}$ (c) 10 (d) 100
(e) None of these
- The value of x for which $\sqrt{1+\frac{25}{144}}=1+\frac{x}{12}$ is:
(a) 1 (b) 5 (c) 12 (d) 13
(e) None of these
- If $\frac{b}{a}=\frac{1}{2}$, what is the value of expression $\frac{a-b}{a+b}+\frac{2}{3}$?
(a) $\frac{1}{3}$ (b) $\frac{2}{3}$ (c) 1 (d) $1\frac{1}{3}$
(e) None of these
- The decimal fraction $\frac{2.45 \times 3.05}{9.9}$ correct to the nearest tenths is:
(a) 0.6 (b) 0.8 (c) 0.7 (d) 0.9
(e) None of these
- The difference between the greatest number and the smallest number formed by using the digits 0, 1, 2 and 3 (without repetition of digits) is:
(a) 1980 (b) 2178 (c) 2187 (d) 3087
(e) None of these
- If Rs 400 becomes Rs 480 in 4 years, then the rate of simple interest per annum is:
(a) 5% (b) $8\frac{1}{3}\%$ (c) $12\frac{1}{2}\%$ (d) 20%
(e) None of these
- A fan has bought for Rs 650 and sold for Rs 585. The loss percentage is:
(a) 10.5% (b) 10% (c) 12% (d) 11%
(e) None of these
- The value of $5\% + 0.8\% + 5.7\% + 54\%$:
(a) 65.5% (b) 66% (c) 66.5% (d) 67.5%
(e) None of these
- The compound interest on Rs 240 for 2 years at 4% per annum is:
(a) Rs 19.20 (b) Rs 19.58 (c) Rs 19.18
(d) Rs 9.60 (e) None of these
- The cost price of 20 articles is the same as selling price of 15 articles. The profit per cent in the transaction is:
(a) 25% (b) 30% (c) $33\frac{1}{3}\%$ (d) 50%
(e) None of these
- A fruit seller sells 5 mangoes for the cost price of six. He gets:
(a) a profit of $16\frac{2}{3}\%$ (b) a profit of 20%

(c) a loss of $16\frac{2}{3}\%$ (d) a loss of 20%

(e) None of these

21. An ore contains 15% of copper. To get 72 kg of copper, the quantity of ore required is:

(a) 720 kg (b) 600 kg (c) 480 kg (d) 450 kg
(e) None of these

22. Raj and Ram are partners in a business. Raj invests Rs 5,000 for 5 months and Ram invests Rs 6,000 for 6 months. If the profit is Rs 610, then Ram's share in the profit is:

(a) Rs 250 (b) Rs 360 (c) Rs 520 (d) Rs 630
(e) None of these

23. On retirement a person gets Rs 1.53 lakhs as his provident fund amount which he invests in fixed deposit at 20%. His monthly income from this investment is:

(a) Rs 2,250 (b) Rs 2,500 (c) Rs 2,550
(d) Rs 2,600 (e) None of these

24. The difference between compound interest and simple interest on a certain sum of money in 2 years at 4% is Rs 50. The principal is:

(a) Rs 20,400 (b) Rs 31,250 (c) Rs 25,000
(d) Rs 1,00,000 (e) None of these

25. The average consumption of petrol for a car for five months is 96 litres and for the next seven months is 120 litres. The average monthly consumption of petrol is:

(a) 100 litres (b) 105 litres (c) 110 litres
(d) 115 litres (e) None of these

26. The average weight of 35 students in a class is 35 kg. If the teacher is also included, the average weight increases to 36 kg. The weight of the teacher is:

(a) 35 kg (b) 36 kg (c) 70 kg (d) 71 kg
(e) None of these

27. Three years ago the average age of a family of 5 members was 17 years. A baby having been born the average of the family is the same today. The age of the baby is:

(a) 5 years (b) 6 years (c) 2 years
(d) 3 years (e) None of these

28. The average of 11 numbers is 10.9. If the average of first six is 10.5 and that of last six is 11.4, the middle (sixth) number is:

(a) 11.5 (b) 11.4 (c) 11.3 (d) 11.0
(e) None of these

29. The rate of interest per cent at which Rs 1200 amount to Rs 1323 in two years, when interest is compounded annually is equal to:

(a) 5% (b) 10% (c) 18% (d) 4%

30. The average of first ten prime numbers is:

(a) 12.5 (b) 12.9 (c) 13.2 (d) 12.0

ANSWERS & EXPLANATIONS

1. (c) 2. (c) 3. (d)
4. (b) 2nd number = $\frac{H.C.F. \times L.C.M.}{1st\ number}$

5. (d)

6. (d) The sum of the digits of the number 258×4 must be divided by 9

$$\therefore 2 + 5 + 8 + * + 4 = 19 + * \text{ or } 19 + 8 = 27$$

(It is divisible by 9) Hence digit = 8

7. (c) 8. (a) 9. (b) 10. (a)
11. (a) 12. (c) 13. (c) 14. (c)

15. (a) Rate = $\frac{S.I. \times 100}{P \times T}$

16. (b) 17. (a) 18. (b) 19. (c)

20. (b) 21. (c) 22. (b)

23. (c) Monthly Income

$$= 1,53,000 \times \frac{20}{100} \times \frac{1}{12} = \text{Rs } 2550$$

24. (b) S.I. on Rs 100 = $\frac{100 \times 2 \times 4}{100} = \text{Rs } 8$

C.I. on Rs 100

$$= 100 \times \frac{26}{25} \times \frac{26}{25} - 100 = \frac{204}{25}$$

$$\text{Difference} = \frac{204}{25} - 8 = \frac{4}{25}$$

When difference is

$$\text{Rs } \frac{4}{25} \text{ then } P = \text{Rs } 100$$

When difference is Rs 50 then

$$P = 100 \times \frac{25}{4} \times 50 = \text{Rs } 31,250$$

25. (c) Total consumption of 1st 5 months

$$= 96 \times 5 = 480 \text{ litres}$$

Total consumption of last 7 months

$$= 120 \times 7 = 840 \text{ litres}$$

Total consumption of 12 months = 1320 litres

$$\text{Average} = \frac{1320}{12} = 110 \text{ litres}$$

26. (d) 1st total weight of 35 students

$$= 35 \times 35 = 1225 \text{ kg}$$

2nd total weight of 35 students

$$\text{and the teacher} = 36 \times 36 = 1296 \text{ kg}$$

Weight of the teacher

$$= 1296 - 1225 = 71 \text{ kg}$$

27. (c) Three years ago total age of a family of 5

$$\text{members} = 17 \times 5 = 85 \text{ years}$$

At present total age of the family of 5

$$\text{members} = 85 + (5 \times 3) = 85 + 15 = 100 \text{ years}$$

At present total age of a family of 6 members with same average

$$= 17 \times 6 = 102 \text{ years}$$

$$\text{Age of the baby} = 102 - 100 = 2 \text{ years}$$

28. (a) Total strength of 11 numbers

$$= 10.9 \times 11 = 119.9$$

Total strength of 1st six numbers

$$= 10.5 \times 6 = 63.0$$

Total strength of last six numbers

$$= 11.4 \times 6 = 68.4$$

Total strength of (1st six and last six)

$$= 63.0 + 68.4 = 131.4$$

\therefore Middle (6th) number

$$= 131.4 - 119.9 = 11.5$$

29. (a) Amount = Principal $(1 + \frac{\text{Rate}}{100})$ Time

30. (b) The sum of 1st ten prime numbers = $2 + 3 + 5 + 7 + 11 + 13 + 17 + 19 + 23 + 29 = 129$

$$\text{Average} = \frac{129}{10} = 12.9$$

ENGLISH LANGUAGE

The questions given below were asked in the Bank Probationary Officers' Examination held on the 18th March, 1990.

We are grateful to Shri Anil Kumar Artal of Mandi (H.P.) for sending these questions to us.

Directions: In questions 1 to 5, some of the sentences have errors and some have none. Find out which part of a sentence has an error and put a cross (x) in the circle corresponding to the appropriate number (1, 2, 3). If there is no error, put a (x) in the circle corresponding to 4 in the Answer-Sheet.

1. More leisure, as well as an abundance of goods, (1) are attainable (2) through automation (3). No error (4).

2. Every man, woman and child (1) is now aware of the terrible consequences (2) of habit of smoking (3). No error (4).

3. The building adjacent to the river (1) comprises of ten flats (2) each with a terrace (3). No error (4).

4. The crowd at the stadium (1) clapped jubilantly when the champion (2) received his trophy (3). No error (4).

5. If any of the founding fathers of our Constitution was to return to life for a day (1) his opinion of our amendments (2) would be interesting (3). No error (4).

Directions: In questions 6 to 10, sentences are given with blanks to be filled in with an appropriate word(s). Four alternatives are suggested for each question. Choose the correct alternative out of the four and indicate it with a cross (x) in the Answer-Sheet.

6. We must _____ the tickets for the movie in advance.
(a) take (b) remove
(c) buy (d) draw

7. Questions will be answered by a _____ of experts.
(a) staff (b) panel
(c) bunch (d) band

8. The speaker _____ the scope of his paper on 'Work-ethic' at the

outset.

(a) declined (b) ascribed
(c) defined (d) delineated

9. Please do not _____ the offer made by the Chairman.

(a) refrain (b) refute
(c) refuse (d) refuge

10. I have tried to learn algebra for years, but I _____ not succeeded yet.

(a) did (b) will
(c) have (d) had

Directions: In questions 11 to 15, out of the four alternatives, choose the one which best expresses the meaning of the given word and mark it in the Answer-Sheet.

11. grubby
(a) new (b) unwashed
(c) muddy (d) wet

12. infernal
(a) exciting (b) devilish
(c) damaging (d) hateful

13. placid
(a) dull (b) enjoyable
(c) calm (d) clear

14. plush
(a) tasty (b) luxurious
(c) delicious (d) comforting

15. overstrung
(a) active (b) energetic
(c) too sensitive (d) concerned

Directions: In questions 16 to 20, choose the word opposite in meaning to the given word and mark it in the Answer-Sheet.

16. bizarre
(a) soft (b) gentle
(c) same (d) usual

17. overwrought
(a) alive (b) calm
(c) excited (d) alert

18. pacify
(a) injure (b) offend
(c) aggravate (d) insult

19. onerous
(a) easy (b) complex
(c) plain
(d) straightforward

20. modicum
(a) Immodesty
(b) a large amount
(c) brazenness (d) simplicity

Directions: In questions 21 to 25, the 1st and the last parts of the

passage are numbered 1 & 6. The rest of the passage is split into four parts and named P, Q, R and S. These four parts are not given in their proper order. Read the sentences and find out which of the four combinations is correct. Then find the correct answer and indicate it with a cross (x) in the Answer-Sheet.

21. 1. The great Rodin lay, old and infirm, on a sickbed outside Paris.

P. He muttered that he wanted to see his wife.

Q. She is right beside you, they said: Rose Beuret, his faithful mistress and house-keeper for 50 years.

R. 'Not her, the other one.'

S. 'No, no', he said fretfully.

6. The 'other one'—Camille Claudel, was at that moment 400 miles away, in a mad-house near Avignon.

(a) PQSR (b) QPSR
(c) SRQP (d) RQPS

22. 1. Camille, however, was not content to be a muse.

P. She wanted an independent career.

Q. And there were fundamental differences of character.

R. They are less bombastic, more contained, more intimate.

S. She was never a servile copyist of Rodin—her works all have her own personal stamp.

6. Rodin at bottom remained a man of the people, simple of taste, coarse of grain.

(a) PSRQ (b) SRQP
(c) RQPS (d) QPSR

23. 1. 'As a matter of fact', said the boy modestly, 'I'm a spaceman.'

P. 'You can't see it from here.'

Q. 'From another planet.'

OBJECTIVE-TYPE QUESTIONS

- R. 'I'm a spaceman', he said again.
 S. George and Cathy stared at the boy.
 6. Cathy gasped, and George gave a shout of laughter.
 (a) PSRQ (b) QPSR
 (c) RQPS (d) SRQP

24. 1. His penance grew harder; he abjured even fruit.
 P. Then the water, too, that the girl offered him in leaf-cups lay untouched.
 Q. Birds pecked at them as they lay rotting at his feet.
 R. She gathered wild blossoms and laid them humbly before him.
 S. The girl mused in sorrow: 'Is there nothing left for me to do?'
 6. The ascetic took no notice.
 (a) RQPS (b) SRQP
 (c) QPSR (d) PSRQ

Directions: In the following passage (26 to 35) some of the words have been left out. First read the passage over and try to understand what it is about. Then fill in the blanks with the help of the alternatives given. Mark your answer in the Answer-Sheet.

The human mind seems to have built-in_____

25. (a) interests (b) safeguards
 (c) prejudices (d) ideas
 against original thought: for instance, we_____
26. (a) have
 (b) had
 (c) may have
 (d) having been
 equipped with a wonderful_____
27. (a) capacity (b) sense
 (c) sensibility (d) capability
 for accepting evidence which agrees with our_____
28. (a) views (b) thoughts
 (c) conceptions
 (d) preconceptions
- Almost unconsciously we allow our thinking to be_____
29. (a) based (b) biased
 (c) rooted (d) fixed
 on what we first thought, or were_____
30. (a) spoke (b) told
 (c) expressed (d) said
 when we approached the subject. If_____
31. (a) sometimes (b) only

(c) frequently (d) when
 man could be freed from the yoke_____

32. (a) on (b) in
 (c) under (d) of
 his age-old assumptions, prejudices, traditional imagery, and_____

33. (a) negativeness
 (b) certainty
 (c) positiveness
 (d) negation
 about what is right and what is wrong_____

34. (a) he (b) man
 (c) men (d) they

might wake up one day to find that even the greatest and gentlest of his aspirations was possible.

Directions: In questions 36 to 40, you have one passage with 5 questions following the passage. Read the passage carefully and choose the best answer to each question out of the four alternatives and mark it in the Answer-Sheet.

How long I remained in the room with the cobra I cannot say. My servant said later that it was only half an hour, and no sound has ever been more welcome to me than the sounds I heard as my servant laid the table for dinner. I called him to the bathroom door, and told him of my predicament, and instructed him to fetch a lantern and a ladder. After another long wait, I heard the babel of voices, followed by the scraping of the ladder against the outer wall of the house. When the lantern had been lifted to the window, ten feet above the ground, it did not illuminate the room, so I told the man who was holding it to break a pane of glass and pass the lantern through the opening. The opening was too small for the lantern to be passed in upright. However, after it had been relit three times it was finally inserted into the room. On seeing that the cobra was behind me, I turned my head and saw it lying at the bottom of the bedroom door two feet away. Leaning forward very slowly, I picked up the heavy bath-mat, raised it high and let it fall as the cobra was sliding over the floor towards me. Fortunately I judged my aim accurately and the bath-mat crashed down on the cobra's neck six inches from its head. As it bit at the wood and lashed about with its tail, I took a hasty stride to the verandah door and in a moment was outside among a crowd of men, armed with

sticks and carrying lanterns, for word had got round to the railway quarters that I was having a life-and-death struggle with a big snake in a locked room.

35. The incident narrated in the passage is:

- (a) thrilling
 (b) dramatic
 (c) tragic
 (d) humorous

36. The room in which the writer is locked in with the cobra is his:

- (a) bed-room (b) toilet
 (c) bath-room
 (d) drawing room

37. "It did not illuminate the room." Here, "illuminate" can be replaced by:

- (a) light up brightly
 (b) throw faint light
 (c) enlighten
 (d) make colourful

38. A large crowd had gathered outside the writer's room, presumably to:

- (a) break open the door of the room
 (b) watch the writer's struggle with the cobra
 (c) kill the snake if it came out
 (d) catch the snake

39. The people who had gathered outside were:

- (a) passers by
 (b) from Railway Quarters
 (c) snake-charmers
 (d) strangers to the writer

ANSWERS

1. Conjunction 'and' instead of 'as well as' is more appropriate and common in use.
3. 'of the habit of smoking', is the correct expression.
2. proposition 'of' after the verb-comprise is redundant. Therefore 'of' is not required.
1. 'the crowd (N) in the stadium' but 'to crowd (V) into the stadium' is the correct usage.
1. 'were to return' is the correct usage because the sentence refers to a wish unlikely to be fulfilled.
6. (c) 7. (b) 8. (c) 9. (c)
10. (c) 11. (b) 12. (b) 13. (c)
14. (b) 15. (c) 16. (d) 17. (b)
18. (b) 19. (a) 20. (b) 21. (a)
22. (a) 23. (d) 24. (b) 25. (c)
26. (d) 27. (a) 28. (d) 29. (a)
30. (b) 31. (b) 32. (d) 33. (b)
34. (a) 35. (b) 36. (c) 37. (a)
38. (c) 39. (b)

GENERAL AWARENESS

The questions given below were set in the Tamil Nadu Public Service Commission Group-I exam held in 1990.

We are grateful to Shri M. Chellappa of Madurai who sent these questions to us.

* Tick-mark the correct answer out of the choices given.

1. Present-day man belongs to the species called:
 - ☒ (a) Homo-Sapiens
 - (b) Cro-Magnon
 - (c) Pithecanthropus
 - (d) Zinjanthropus
2. The first civilizations began to emerge in some parts of the world by about:
 - (a) 10,000 B.C.
 - (b) 8,000 B.C.
 - ☒ (c) 4,000 B.C.
 - (d) 2,000 years ago
3. The Aryans came to India from:
 - (a) Eastern Europe
 - ☒ (b) Central Asia
 - (c) South-East Asia
 - (d) None of these
4. Which one of the following is the earliest school of Indian philosophy?
 - ☒ (a) Samkhya
 - (b) Vaisheshika
 - (c) Karma Mimamsa
 - (d) Yoga
5. To attain nirvana Buddha prescribed:
 - (a) the four noble truths
 - ☒ (b) eight-fold path
 - (c) Nishkama Karma
 - (d) the trirathna
6. How did Ashoka spread his Dharma?
 - (a) Through Edicts
 - (b) By using prakrit
 - (c) Sending Bhikshus to foreign countries
 - ☒ (d) All of these
7. The Ajanta Cave paintings mostly belong to the periods of:
 - (a) Kushans
 - ☒ (b) Guptas
 - (c) Mauryas

- (d) Chalukyas
8. The famous peacock throne originally belonged to:
 - (a) Chandra Gupta
 - (b) Nadir Shah
 - (c) Bhoja
 - ☒ (d) Shah Jahan
9. The pioneer of Bhakti movement in India is believed to be:
 - (a) Sankarachariya
 - (b) Namdev
 - ☒ (c) Ramanuja
 - (d) Kabir
10. Who laid the foundation of Portuguese power in India?
 - (a) Vasco da Gama
 - (b) Bartholomew Dias
 - (c) Alfonso
 - ☒ (d) None of these
11. The Governor-General when the 1857 revolt broke out was:
 - (a) Dalhousie
 - ☒ (b) Canning
 - (c) Curzon
 - (d) Lawrence
12. The French influence was prominent at the Courts of:
 - (a) Avadhi
 - ☒ (b) Carnatic
 - (c) Mysore and Hyderabad
 - (d) Tanjore
13. The oldest existing newspaper of India is:
 - (a) Sambad Kaumudi
 - ☒ (b) Bombay Samachar
 - (c) The Bengal Gazette
 - (d) The Pioneer
14. The first session of Indian National Congress was held in.
 - (a) 1901
 - (b) 1892
 - ☒ (c) 1885
 - (d) 1880
15. Who came to be known as "Grand Old Man of India"?
 - (a) Justice Ranade
 - (b) Mahatma Gandhi
 - (c) Rabindranath Tagore
 - ☒ (d) Dadabhai Naorji
16. When was the partition of Bengal annulled?
 - (a) 1909
 - (b) 1910

- ☒ (a) 1911
- (d) Not annulled
17. The first split took place in Congress at:
 - (a) Calcutta
 - (b) Allahabad
 - (c) Madras
 - ☒ (d) Surat
18. The Cripps Mission visited India during the regime of:
 - (a) Lord Mountbatten
 - ☒ (b) Lord Linlithgow
 - (c) Lord Wavell
 - (d) Lord Wellington
19. The Indian National Army was formed in:
 - (a) Japan
 - (b) Burma
 - (c) Malaya
 - ☒ (d) Singapore
20. The Constitution of India came into force on:
 - ☒ (a) January 26, 1950
 - (b) November 26, 1950
 - (c) January 26, 1947
 - (d) August 15, 1947
21. India in 1987 was a Union of
 - (a) 20 States
 - (b) 14 States
 - (c) 21 States
 - ☒ (d) 25 States
22. Which of the following is not a condition for becoming a citizen of India?
 - (a) Birth
 - ☒ (b) Acquiring property
 - (c) Descent
 - (d) Naturalisation
23. Fundamental Rights are enshrined in the Constitution in:
 - (a) Part I
 - ☒ (b) Part III
 - (c) Part IV
 - (d) Part VI
24. The number of Fundamental Rights enjoyed by an Indian are:
 - (a) nine
 - (b) ten
 - (c) seven
 - ☒ (d) six
25. The maximum age prescribed for election as President of India is:

OBJECTIVE-TYPE QUESTIONS

- (a) 58 years
(b) 62 years
(c) 60 years
☒ (d) No such limit
26. The President of India can declare:
(a) National Emergency
(b) Financial Emergency
(c) Constitutional Emergency
☒ (d) All the above
27. The Union Council of Ministers is appointed by:
☒ (a) President
(b) Parliament
(c) Prime Minister
(d) Vice-President
28. The President of India is elected for:
(a) 4 years
(b) 6 years
☒ (c) 5 years
(d) life
29. The Vice-President of India is:
(a) Chairman of Lok Sabha
☒ (b) Ex-Officio Chairman of Rajya Sabha
(c) Speaker of Lok Sabha
(d) President of Red-Cross
30. Generally all important decisions are taken by:
(a) the Council of Ministers
☒ (b) the Cabinet
(c) the Prime Minister
(d) All the above
31. The first Law Officer of Government of India is:
(a) the Chief Justice of Supreme Court
(b) Law Minister
☒ (c) Attorney-General of India
(d) None of these
32. The maximum strength of Lok Sabha is:
(a) 544
(b) 525
☒ (c) 545
(d) 547
33. The term of Lok Sabha may be extended by:
(a) one year only
(b) five years
☒ (c) one year at a time
(d) six months
34. Who chooses the Lok Sabha Speaker?
☒ (a) The Lok Sabha
(b) The President
(c) The Prime Minister
(d) The Vice President
35. The Rajya Sabha can be

- dissolved by:
(a) Lok Sabha
(b) President
(c) Constitutional Amendment
☒ (d) None
36. A member of the Rajya Sabha is elected for:
(a) life
(b) 3 years
(c) 6 years
☒ (d) 2 years
37. The Governor is generally taken from:
(a) the State
(b) the same zone
☒ (c) outside the State
(d) the majority party
38. Which of the following is not a Union Territory?
(a) Diu and Daman
(b) Pondicherry
(c) Dadra and Nagar Haveli
☒ (d) Mizoram
39. The retirement age of a High Court Judge is:
☒ (a) 62 years
(b) 60 years
(c) 65 years
(d) 58 years
40. The Central Government's exclusive powers are enumerated in the:
(a) Concurrent List
(b) State List
☒ (c) Union List
(d) Federal List
41. When was the Panchayat Raj introduced in India?
(a) 1950
☒ (b) 1959
(c) 1952
(d) 1962
42. The members of U.P.S.C. are:
(a) elected by the people
(b) elected by the President
☒ (c) appointed by the President
(d) appointed by the Council of Ministers
43. The power to decide an election petition is vested in the:
(a) Parliament
(b) High Court
(c) Supreme Court
☒ (d) Election Commission
44. "Socialistic pattern" comes through:
(a) free economy
☒ (b) mixed economy
(c) public sector
(d) None of these

45. Who finally approves the draft five-year plans?
(a) Parliament and State Legislatures
☒ (b) National Development Council
(c) Planning Commission
(d) The President
46. Regional Rural Banks started functioning in India in:
(a) 1971
(b) 1970
☒ (c) 1975
(d) 1973
47. India's paper currency is controlled by the:
(a) Ministry of Finance
(b) Government of India
(c) State Bank of India
☒ (d) Reserve Bank of India

ANSWERS

- | | | |
|---|---------|---------|
| 1. (a) | 2. (c) | 3. (b) |
| 4. (a) | 5. (b) | 6. (d) |
| 7. (b) | 8. (d) | 9. (c) |
| 10. (d) | 11. (b) | 12. (b) |
| 13. (b) It is Gujarati Daily published from Bombay. | | |
| 14. (c) | 15. (d) | 16. (c) |
| 17. (d) | 18. (b) | 19. (d) |
| 20. (a) | 21. (d) | 22. (b) |
| 23. (b) | 24. (d) | 25. (d) |
| 26. (d) | 27. (a) | 28. (c) |
| 29. (b) | 30. (b) | 31. (c) |
| 32. (c) | 33. (c) | 34. (a) |
| 35. (d) | 36. (d) | 37. (c) |
| 38. (d) | 39. (a) | 40. (c) |
| 41. (b) | 42. (c) | 43. (d) |
| 44. (b) | 45. (b) | 46. (c) |
| 47. (d) | | |

Corrections

Page 692—May '90 issue

Correct answer to Q. 46 is (b).

Pages 774-776—June '90 issue

Correct answers to the following questions are:

- | | | |
|------------|---------------|---------|
| Q. 12. (b) | 17. (a) | 25. (a) |
| 30. (d) | 33. (c) | 36. (b) |
| 40. (c) | 63. (a) & (b) | |
| 70. (a) | 74. (b) | |

The mistakes are regretted.

—Editor.

THE EXAMINER'S GUESS QUESTIONS

Q. Among the twelve Indian cities having population of more than ten lakh, which city had the lowest growth rate as per the 1981 census?

Ans. Lucknow. It had a growth rate of 2.36 per cent. Bangalore, which has a population of 29.1 lakh had the highest growth rate at 7.61 per cent.

Q. Which State/Union Territory has the lowest mortality rate in India?

Ans. Chandigarh. The mortality rate is 4.5 per thousand. The mortality rate of India is 11 per thousand. Arunachal Pradesh has the highest rate of 17.

Q. Who headed the special mission of President George Bush of USA, which was sent to defuse the tension between India and Pakistan over the Kashmir issue?

Ans. Robert Gates.

Q. In the month of May 1990 a painting was sold for 82.5 million dollars by the Christies' auction house in New York, U.S.A. This was a record for a painting at auction. Who was the painter?

Ans. The painting was a portrait by Vincent Van Gogh, the famous Dutch painter.

Q. Where will be the headquarters of the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) situated?

Ans. London.

Q. On May 22, 1990 which two countries of the African continent united into a single State?

Ans. North Yemen and South Yemen. Sanaa has been declared the Capital of the United Yemen.

Q. With which game is the Jules Rimet Trophy associated?

Ans. Football. It is given to the winners of the World Cup Football tournament.

Q. Which country has the highest rate of road accidents?

Ans. Mauritius with 73.75 accidents per 1000 vehicles. India with 19.70 accidents per 1000 vehicles ranks fourth.

Q. What was the power deficit of India during 1988-89?

Ans. 7.7 per cent. The losses in transmission and distribution were of the order of 21.5 per cent. The deficit has ranged from 14.1 per cent in 1974-75 to 6.7 per cent in 1984-85 and 10.9 per cent in 1987-88.

Thermal capacity accounts for 67 per cent of the total installed capacity and 71 per cent of the power generation.

Q. What export target has been fixed for 1990-91 by the Government of India?

Ans. Rs 36,000 crore.

Q. Name the countries that are members of G-15?

Ans. Brazil, Egypt, Jamaica, Mexico, Peru, Malaysia, Algeria, Argentina, India, Indonesia, Nigeria, Senegal, Venezuela, Yugoslavia and Zimbabwe.

The first summit of G-15 was held in Malaysia in the month of May 1990. The 1991 summit will be held in Venezuela.

Q. What record has been achieved by India in the production of sugar?

Ans. India has become the first country in the world to surpass the ten million mark in sugar production. During the season ending October 1990 the sugar production is estimated to be around 10.6 million tonnes.

Q. What does the Constitution (68th Amendment) Bill relate to?

Ans. The amendment gives statutory status to the Scheduled Castes and Tribes Commission.

Q. What does Constitution (66th Amendment) Bill relate to?

Ans. It seeks to include land reform laws in the ninth schedule of the Constitution.

Q. What is the salary of the President of India?

Ans. Rs 20,000 per month.

Q. What are the highlights of the draft approach paper to the 8th Plan?

Ans. Average annual growth rate projected at 5.5 per cent.

—Employment growth at 3 per cent annual average over the current decade.

—Savings rate to be stepped up to around 22 per cent of gross domestic product.

—Net foreign resources inflow assumed at 1.5 per cent of GDP.

—A minimum 12 per cent annual volume growth in exports.

—Fifty per cent of investible resources to be earmarked for agricultural and rural development.

—Elimination of illiteracy by the end of nineties by overhauling education policy.

—Shift in family planning strategy from emphasis on contraceptive measures to focus on women's status, female literacy and control of infant mortality.

—Industrial policy reforms to emphasise strategic and non-discretionary instruments of regulation, reducing bureaucratic control.

—Steps to improve efficiency and competitiveness of Indian industry for enhancing its contribution to exports and import substitution.

—Public sector to focus on infrastructure, key intermediate goods, strategic commodities and social services.

—Greater private sector involvement in areas now largely retained by public sector.

—Broader tax base and simpler tax laws with less exemptions.

—Public sector may be divested of chronically losing enterprises.

Q. What are the highlights of the new industrial policy?

Ans. Investment ceiling in plant and machinery to small-scale industries raised to Rs 60 lakh from the present Rs 35 lakh. For ancillary units the ceiling has been raised to Rs 75 lakh from the present Rs 45 lakh.

—Exemption from obtaining licences for all new units upto an investment of Rs 25 crore in fixed assets in non-backward areas and Rs 75 crore in centrally notified backward areas.

—Investment ceiling for tiny units has been increased to Rs 5 lakh from Rs 2 lakh. However, with regard to their location, the population limit of 50,000 as per 1981 census would continue to apply.

SPORTS

ATHLETICS

World Record

Kerry Saxby of Australia broke the women's 10-km track walk world record by 14 seconds when she clocked 42 minutes 25.2 seconds in an athletic meet at Fana (Western Norway) on May 27. The previous record of 42 minutes 39.2 seconds was set by Ileana Salvador of Italy in Rome last June.

World Records

American Randy Barnes stole the show at the Los Angeles Athletic Meet on May 24 when he set a world shot put record of 23.12 metres beating East German Ulf Timmermann's two-year-old mark of 23.06 metres. Barnes collected 50,000 dollars for his record-breaking performance.

Junior National Championships

Bihar, with 254 points, won the overall title in the fifth Junior National Athletic Championships which concluded at Muzaffarpur on May 21. Kerala (120) and Punjab (119) were far behind for the second and third places respectively.

Bihar boys, scoring 85 points in the under-16 section, completely overshadowed the second and third place finishers Haryana (51) and U.P. (20).

New National Records

The boys under-19 event was a close affair. Punjab topped with 59 points while Bihar were a close second with 55 points. Among the individual performers Sathir Singh of Punjab stole the limelight by creating a new national record in the javelin throw for boys under-19. His throw of 66.48 metres was a big improvement over the existing record of 64.36 metres established by Rakesh Kumar Singh of Bihar two years ago.

Kerala asserted their supremacy in the girls under-16 event by emerging the champions with an aggregate of 69 points. Bengal (62) came second.

Paris Marathon

Sunita Godara, a Haryana housewife, finished tenth in the women's section of the Paris Marathon and bagged a prize of 5,000 francs, according to an official release at Delhi on May 14. Sunita recorded a career-best time of 2 hours 49.21, the best for an Indian woman marathon runner abroad. The previous best was Asha Agarwal's 2 hours 51.08 minutes at the 1987 London Marathon.

Yomamoto of Japan won the women's title in 2 hours 35.11 minutes. In the men's section, Steve Brace of Britain won the event in 2 hours 13.10 minutes.

CHESS

A.-I. Open International Rating Tournament

In the last round of the Seth P.N. Melita All-India Open International Rating Chess Tournament, defending champion Jayant Gokhle retained his title on better medium count at Nasik on May 9. Gokhle had nine points and 53.5 medium counts while top-seeded Rafiq Khan had nine points and 51 medium counts.

CRICKET

Sheesh Mahal Trophy

Star-studded Sahara India lifted the All-India Sheesh Mahal Cricket Trophy defeating Gulmarg Eleven by 40 runs in the final at Lucknow on May 15. Gulmarg XI could score only 153 runs for nine wickets in the stipulated 35 overs in reply to Sahara India's 193 in 34.5 overs.

FOOTBALL

Santosh Trophy

The coveted Santosh Trophy for the National Football Championship travelled to Goa for the third time when they defeated Kerala, runners-up for the last two years, by 2-0 in the final at Margao on May 27. Goa were joint winners in 1982 and had won the cup outright in 1983. The trophy was instituted in 1941 to perpetuate the memory of Sir Man-

moth Roy Chaudhury of Santosh, for many years President of the Indian Football Association, Calcutta.

A.-I. Women's Championship

Holders Bengal retained the All-India Women's Football Championship title edging past a fighting Kerala 1-0 in a well-contested final at Bhadreswar, near Calcutta on May 14.

Jules Rimet Trophy: Dramatic History

It was stolen twice. It once was hidden in a shoebox to save it from wartime theft. The FIFA World Cup trophy is probably the most coveted prize in all of sports. And the latest trophy is now guarded in a bank vault in Rome.

While individual games have created World Cup lore, the trophy itself has a dramatic history. When the world championship concept was accepted in 1928, FIFA, the world governing body for soccer, decided that the winner of the tournament should receive a work of art as a trophy. FIFA commissioned French sculptor Abel Lafleur to create the statuette.

Lafleur sculpted about 1.8 kilograms of gold into a winged woman, the goddess of victory, holding an octagonal vessel in her outstretched hands above her head. He placed it on a base of semi-precious stones.

The octagonal vessel gave birth to the phrase "World Cup", and the quest for soccer's holy grail began.

Uruguay won the first World Cup tournament in 1930. Italy won it in 1934 and in 1938. World War II caused the tournament to be suspended until 1950. When German forces occupied its axis-ally Italy in the later stages of World War II, the FIFA Vice-President, Dr Ottorino Barassi of Italy, hid the World Cup in a shoebox under his bed to protect it from the Nazis.

In 1946 the "World Cup" was renamed the Jules Rimet Cup, in

honour of the FIFA president from 1921-1954.

New Trophy: A new trophy was created, designed by Italian sculptor Silvio Gazzaniga. His design was one of the 53 submitted in a contest that drew entries from seven nations. Italy's trophy manufacturer Bertoni cast the "FIFA World Cup" or "FIFA Copa Mundial", the trophy's official name.

The Gazzaniga design was 36 centimetres (14 inches) in height, and being made out of solid 18 carat gold—weighed 4.97 kg.

But the Jules Rimet Cup wasn't done making history.

On December 19, 1983, hooded men broke into the offices of the Brazilian soccer confederation in Rio de Janeiro, tied up the night watchman and stole the trophy.

The stolen trophy was quickly replaced. In 1984, the Eastman-Kodak company of Rochester, New York, received FIFA's permission and commissioned Wilhelm Geist and Son in Hanau, West Germany, to recreate the trophy.

The new Jules Rimet Cup was cast out of 1.8 kg of pure gold and mounted on Lapis Lazuli. Eight gold plates around the base are engraved with the World Cup winners names from 1930 to 1970.

The new trophy, valued at \$ 34,800 was presented to Brazilian president Joao Baptista Figueiredo in 1984 and it remains on display at Rio's 2,00,000-seat Maracana Stadium.

The current trophy is presented to the winning national team, which gets to keep it during its four-year reign—usually in a bank vault. The winning team receives a gold-plated replica, which it keeps.

World Cup Firsts

Teams at first World Cup: Argentina, Brazil, Uruguay, Paraguay, United States, France, Mexico, Chile, Yugoslavia, Bolivia, Romania, Peru and Belgium.

First goal: Louis Laurent of France in the first half against Mexico.

First World Cup Mascot: World Cup Willie (lion-like boy), 1966 in England.

Countries participating for first time in 1990: United Arab Emirates, Costa Rica and Ireland.

First participant from outside

Europe or the Americas: Egypt in 1934.

The only country to have played in every World Cup: Brazil, 14 this year.

HOCKEY

Women's World Cup

The 12-nation Women's World Cup Hockey Championship resulted in a third consecutive triumph for Holland who defeated Australia by 3-1 in the final at Sydney on May 13. The win also helped Holland to avenge the loss to Australia at the Seoul Olympic Games in 1984.

Bronze Medal: South Korea overcame an early deficit of two goals to beat England 3-2 to claim the bronze medal.

Best Player: Lianne Leune of Holland was named the best player in the 10-day tournament, held every four years.

Sub-Junior Women's National Championship

Uttar Pradesh won the seventh Sub-Junior Women's hockey Championship defeating defending champions Punjab 2-0 in the final at Hissar on May 13.

SWIMMING

Schools National championships

Bengal annexed both the senior and junior boys' team titles while Delhi claimed honours in junior girls' section and boys' and girls' diving events in the 35th Schools National Swimming Championships which concluded at New Delhi on May 2.

Bengal (47 points) were on top in the boys' team championship. They were followed by Maharashtra (33 points) and Delhi (30 points). Delhi's junior boys team logged 66 points to emerge clean winners over second placed Delhi (38). The senior girls' team title went to Kerala (47), with Maharashtra (22) in the second spot.

TABLE TENNIS

World Cup

Debeating long-standing rivals China 3-2, Sweden took the men's crown at the 130,000-dollar World Cup Table Tennis Tournament at Osaka on May 24. The Swedes' victory became all the more creditable as they came from 0-2 to prove why they were the best. The Swedes took home the first prize of 16,000 dollars while China earned 10,000

dollars.

TENNIS

German Open Men's Tournament

Boris Becker of West Germany, ranked third in the world, suffered the worst defeat of his career when he was beaten by 26th ranked Juan Aguilera of Spain in the final of the one million-dollar German Open Men's Tennis Tournament at Hamburg on May 14. The Spaniard, who had also won the title in 1984, received the winner's cheque for 125,000 dollars while Becker had to make do with 65,800 dollars.

U.S. Men's Clay Court Championship

Forty-eighth-ranked David Wheaton, side-lined for two months due to a leg injury, staged a remarkable comeback when he won the U.S. Clay Court Tennis Championship defeating No. 166 Mark Kaplan 6-4, 6-4 in the final at East Beach Club on May 14.

French Open Championships

Ecador's Andres Gomez out-foxed Andre Agassi of United States to win the men's singles title of the French Open Championship. He defeated Agassi 6-3, 2-6, 6-4, 6-3. This is the first 'Grand Slam' singles title of his career.

Gomez, winner of 19 singles titles during his career and three times a quarter-finalist at the French Open, is the first left-handed player and the first South American to win the title since Guillermo Vilas triumphed in 1977.

Sixteen-year old Yugoslav, Monica Seles, became the youngest-ever winner of the French Open Tennis Women's Singles title when she beat World No. 1 Steffi Graf of West Germany 7-6, (8-6), 6-4.

Monica Seles is the youngest player in over a century to win a Grand Slam tournament, the first player in two years to beat Steffi Graf in consecutive matches and the first Yugoslav woman to win in Paris in 13 years.

Emilio Sanchez teamed with Spanish Compatriot Sergio Casal win the men's double title. The women's double title was won by Czechoslovakia's top seeds Jana Novotna and Helena Sukova.

The mixed doubles title was won by Arantxa Sanchez, the women's singles winner a year ago, and Mexican Jorge Lozano.

Current General Knowledge

ABBREVIATIONS

EBRD: European Bank for Reconstruction and Development.

SIDEC: South Investment Data Exchange Centre

SPG: Strategic Policy Group.

START: Strategic Arms Reduction Talks (between USA and USSR).

AWARDS

Dr Vikram Sarabhai Research Awards, 1989

Six scientists have been chosen for Dr Vikram Sarabhai Research Awards, by the Physical Research Laboratory (PRL), for their contributions to different fields.

The recipients are: Prof L.M. Patnaik, Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore; Dr Surendra Pal, ISRO, Bangalore; Dr N.K. Rao, Indian Institute of Astrophysics, Bangalore; Dr Sarbeshwar Bujarbarua, Institute of Advanced Study in Science and Technology, Guwahati; Prof Sulochana Gadgil, Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore; and Mr M.G. Chandrasekhar, Scientific Secretary, ISRO, Bangalore.

The biennial awards have been sponsored by Shri Hari Om Ashram of Nadiad and carry a medal and Rs 8000 in cash.

Global-500 roll of honour

Two Indian scientists and two non-governmental organisations have been named to the Global-500 roll of honour of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) for outstanding achievement in Protection and Improvement of the Environment of India. The Indian recipients are the Bombay Natural History Society; the Kerala Satra Sahitya Parishad, Trivandrum; Dr D. Ghosh of the Institute of Wetlands Management, Calcutta; and Dr G. Oza a Botanist in Baroda.

DEFENCE

INS Kuthar inducted into Indian Navy

INS Kuthar, the second missile corvette class warship, which has been

built by the Mazagaon Docks Limited (MDL) at a cost of Rs 90 crore, was inducted into the Indian Navy on June 8, 1990.

The ship, displacing 1300 tonnes, is equipped with surface-to-surface and surface-to-air missiles and anti-aircraft guns, and also has a radar known as 'Positive E' which can spot low flying targets at long range from the ship.

OIL & GAS

Gas use saves 1,845 cr in foreign exchange

India saved Rs 1,845 crore in foreign exchange during 1989-90, thanks to the increasing use of gas as a replacement for imported petroleum products in various sectors.

The current level of gas use in India is about 30 million cubic metres per day as compared to 23 million cubic metres in 1988-89. This is expected to increase to about 100 million cubic metres per day by 1994-95, the terminal year of the Eighth Plan.

Natural gas is now being used as a substitute for Nathpa in the fertiliser sector, low sulphur high stock (LSHS) and high speed diesel in power generation, kerosene and LPG in the domestic sector, diesel and fuel oil in the industrial fuel sector and to a small extent high speed diesel (HSD) and petrol in the transportation sector.

Natural gas becomes an attractive alternative because of its high calorific value as compared to other energy sources, apart from the fact that it is environmentally clean. For the same amount of energy, gas produces only half of carbon dioxide as coal and two-thirds that of oil.

Combined cycle gas turbine technology can achieve thermal efficiencies close to 50 per cent for electricity generation, which can go up to 60 per cent if waste heat is also utilised.

PLACES

Yemen, United Republic of

On May 22, 1990 North and South Yemen officially merged into a

Unified Republic of Yemen. The national capital will be Sanaa in the North. Aden, the capital of erstwhile South Yemen, has been named as the economic capital. Gen Ali Abdullah Saleh is the first President of the unified State. The idea of a unified Yemen goes back to the time of the legendary queen, Sheba. In recent times, the first plans for merger were made in 1972, just after the traditional north and the socialist south had fought a border war. But it was only in the past two years that real progress towards a union was made.

The merger joins two impoverished nations of tribal people into one country standing on the brink of oil wealth. The United Republic of Yemen has newly discovered aggregate oil field reserves, unofficially put at 2 billion barrels. The country sits on strategically located Bab Al-Mandab, a strait at the southern outlet of the Red Sea into the Indian Ocean.

The merger also erases the vestiges of the Arab World's only Communist Government, in Aden. South Yemen has become the only Marxist State in the Arab world upon its independence from Britain in 1971.

PROJECTS

MST Radar

Mesosphere, Stratosphere and Troposphere (MST) Radar, second of its kind in the world (the first being in Peru) is being built at Mittagadanki village near Tirupati (Andhra Pradesh).

The MST Radar is a new generation, high power, coherent, pulse doppler radar operating in VHF band and capable of probing the different regions of atmosphere, namely mesosphere, stratosphere and troposphere. It provides with very high temporal and spatial resolution, on a continuous basis, estimates of atmospheric winds. This is essential in the study of various dynamical processes in the atmosphere.

The major scientific experiments planned with MST Radar are three dimensional structure of gravity waves

and turbulence, tropospheric wind profile prior to and during the onset of cyclones, troposphere-stratosphere interaction including wave transients and transport of atmospheric constituents and detailed characterisation of equatorial waves and atmosphere tides in mesosphere and stratosphere.

Bio-informatic network soon

A Government backed bio-informatic project is underway to enable scientists across the country to acquire information from any part of the world through an elaborate computer network. The Department of Biotechnology, to begin with, has linked prominent research centres and universities through a network known as Biotechnology Information System Network (BTNET).

The main objective of the project is to serve as computerised information base in the area of biotechnology covering genetics engineering, immunology, etc. The system will provide online access facility with international network.

The Indian network has nine main centres and 14 user centres located all over the country.

RESEARCH

World to be hotter by 2 degrees

A sponsored group of experts has concluded that worldwide temperatures will rise by unprecedented two degrees within 35 years and more than 6 degrees by the end of the next century if nothing is done to combat global warming.

The panel predicts that temperatures will be far greater than any experienced in the last 10,000 years, raising the spectre of withered crops, spread of the dust bowl, melting of the polar ice cap and flooding of coastal areas of the world and other disasters.

The report of the UN inter-governmental panel, in which India is among the many countries represented, is expected to vastly strengthen the hands of the environmentalists.

Scientists say that the planet will become warmer because gases such as carbon dioxide are increasing in the atmosphere, where they act as a blanket to trap heat from the sun and warm the earth.

Carbon dioxide is a byproduct of the industrial age, produced by nearly

all forms of burning, including combustion of gasoline, coal and oil, and by the destruction of forests.

The land surfaces would warm more rapidly than the oceans. The temperatures in southern Europe and central North America, for example, will be higher than the global averages.

Blind can read papers now

With a new system developed by Britain's Royal National Institute for the Blind (RNIB), blind people can have access to the full text of a newspaper on the day of publication.

In a pilot scheme, just started, the text of the National Guardian is broadcast on each day of publication. It is received in the blind person's home via a special decoder card in a personal computer. A typical issue of the Guardian carries 100,000 words, which takes about an hour to broadcast.

Flexible "read and search" software developed by the RNIB allows the user to read the paper via a speech synthesizer or an electronic transient Braille display—an option that is especially useful to deaf-blind people whose access to any kind of information is very restricted.

The software allows skimming through the headlines before choosing an item to read, and moving easily between articles. A comprehensive searching facility enables the whole newspaper to be scanned in less than four minutes. A blind person with only limited experience of keyboard or typewriter can learn to use it in, under two hours.

Gene therapy to cure cancer

Experiments have shown for the first time that human blood cells carrying foreign genes will zero in on tumours, opening a new strategy for treating cancer.

The preliminary study, conducted on seven patients, is the first approved attempt at human gene therapy—inserting potentially helpful genes inside the body in place where nature failed to put them.

The experiment was intended to show that the approach was possible. In the pilot study physicians introduced a bacterial gene that had no effect on the patients' cancer. The study showed that not only do the cells survive but they home in on tumours and produce a foreign protein

there.

Soon, however, they plan to equip patients blood cells with a gene that delivers a powerful natural cancer-killing substance known as tumour necrosis factor. It is hoped that it will cure the disease by blitzing the tumour with extremely high levels of toxic proteins.

Breakthrough in brain transplant

Neuro-scientists of the John Hopkins University in Baltimore, USA has been able to grow human brain cells in the laboratory. This is considered one of the greatest breakthroughs in medical research and at later stage will make brain transplants possible.

Neurons or brain cells are complex cells that make up the body's central nervous system—spinal cord and brain. They communicate by exchanging chemical messages that essentially instruct the body how to function. But they are different from other body cells in that they do not divide or regenerate. When these neurons are destroyed due to injury or disease, new cells cannot grow to replace them. This makes treatment of certain degenerative brain diseases very difficult.

The success in laboratory growth is expected to help researchers find treatment for degenerative brain diseases.

SPACE RESEARCH

Two distant galaxies discovered

Radio astronomers of the Tata Institute of Fundamental Research (TIFR) have discovered two extremely distant galaxies, of which one is the second most distant galaxy known in the universe.

This is the outcome of the two ongoing research projects initiated by TIFR scientists, being carried out in collaboration with some European and American astronomers, using the world's most powerful optical telescopes situated in Chile and the USA. Red shifts of the two galaxies, which provide a measure of their distances, are 3.55 and 3.13.

In presently accepted big-bang models of the universe a red shift of 3.55 implies that the light from this galaxy has taken about 13 thousand million years to reach us. This time is about 90 per cent of the present age of the universe, since the big-bang. The study of such a galaxy can

therefore tell us about the nature of the universe when it was only about 10 per cent of its present age.

The galaxy at the red shift of 3.55 is the second most distant galaxy known in the universe and the farthest known in the southern sky and was discovered by Prof Gopal Krishna of TIFR in collaboration with De J. Melnick and Dr E. Giraud of the European Southern Observatory (ESO) and Dr H. Steppe of the Iram (Spain).

Its red shift was measured using the powerful 3.6 metre optical telescope of ESO in Chile. The other distant galaxy with red shift 3.13 was discovered by Prof V.K. Kapahi and Dr C.R. Subrahmanya of TIFR in collaboration with Dr P.J. McCarthy of the Carnegie Institution (USA) and Dr W. Van Breugel of the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory (USA).

Voyager sends its last photos

The National Aeronautics and Space Administration has released an extraordinary photo view of the solar system showing six of the nine planets as they appear from deep space.

Earth viewed from six billion km is a blue dot in an ocean of blackness.

The photograph actually is a mosaic of 64 images taken in a four-hour period. It was the last from the Voyager I spacecraft as it sped towards the edge of the solar system. The pictures were recorded on February 13-14, 1990 but not played back to earth until late March because deep space radio receivers were occupied.

The camera looked down from 32 degrees above the so-called ecliptic plane—the track in which most of the planets orbit around the Sun. It captured Neptune, Uranus, Saturn, Jupiter, Earth and Venus. Mars was washed out by the Sun, Mercury was too close to the Sun to be photographed and Pluto was too far away and too small to appear.

The twin spacecraft, Voyager I and Voyager II were launched by NASA in August and September, 1977 from Cape Canaveral, Florida. Between them they explored all the giant outer planets of the solar system, 48 of their moons and the systems of rings and magnetic fields of those planets.

MISCELLANY

India may top in population growth

India will probably have 1.446 billion citizens in 2005 instead of the

projected 1.29 billion and will overtake China as the world's most populous nation by 2030 if the trend continues, according to the United Nations "The State of the World Population Report 1990".

World population is growing faster than expected and there will be 6.51 billion people by the year 2000 instead of the 6.1 billion predicted in 1986. By the year 2005, there will be 8,467 billion people.

Africa and South Asia have the world's highest birth rates. Three babies are born every second, or 50,000 a day, mostly in poor countries at a time when global resources are dwindling.

The 50,000 babies being born every day are "eating away at the earth itself".

The 'Bottom billion', of the world's 5.3 inhabitants live in poverty, with the 'top billion', in industrialised countries.

A harsh warning has been issued to the developing countries where it said a combination of population increase and poverty had led to deforestation and the degradation of land.

The "top billion", people living in industrialized countries, were largely responsible for the earth's deterioration, including damage to the ozone layer, acid rain and global warming.

French train goes at 513.3 kph

A French high-speed train has broken its own world speed record for the third time in two weeks, hitting 513.3 km per hour.

The state-of-the-art "Train a Grande Vitesse" high-speed train or TGV concluded, on May 19, 1990, two weeks of time trials which were held in western France, by the National Railroad.

West German and Japanese manufacturers are competing with France for high-speed train contracts in Europe, North America, South Korea and Australia.

All about naming and renaming

Various names of India, its cities, towns and streets, open up a passage to India down the ages. From Pandava's Indraprastha to Shah-jehanabad of the Mughals to imperial New Delhi—names spell India's concise history.

But many Indians look at Persian and English names as the last rem-

nants of India's subjugation under foreign rule and want to set the clock back.

Delhi is still Delhi. But there is move to change Bombay to Mumbai. Already, the official Hindi version of the Indian Constitution refers to Bombay as Mumbai, after the goddess Mumba Devi, the presiding deity of the tinsel town. Back in the 80's Puna became Pune, Benaras, Varanasi and Baroda, Vadodara.

In Gujarat, a resolution to change the name of Ahmedabad to Karnavati has been passed. Down South, Trivandrum has been replaced by Thiruvananthapuram the original Sanskrit name, given to Kerala's State Capital by the Rajas of Travancore.

There is also a growing demand to change the name of Hyderabad to the original "Bhagyanagar", Nizamabad to "Indur", Patna to "Paliputra" and Hajipur to "Vaishali". But, so far, it has not been conceded.

All the arterial roads of Calcutta have been renamed thereby dropping their imperialist nomenclatures. Chouringhee road is now Jawaharlal Nehru road, Harrison road is Mahatma Gandhi road, Clive road is Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose road and Lansdown road is Sarat Bose road.

Calcutta's landmark Howrah bridge has been rechristened as "Rabindra Setu", while the sprawling Dhakuria lake is now known as "Rabindra Sarovar".

Bombay's famous zoo has been renamed after Shivaji's mother, Jijabai in place of Victoria Garden.

The old names in vogue prior to British period have now been restored in Karnataka, the erstwhile Mysore State. The name of the several cities and towns were changed to correct their wrong spelling. For example, Udupi was changed to Udupi, Kodagu to Coorg and Coonadapur to Kundapur. The name of South Kanara and North Kanara have also been changed to Dakshina Kannada and Uttara Kannada respectively.

The Tamilising of the British-given names has been done in Tamil Nadu. Thus, Trichinopoly became Tiruchirappalli, Ramnad became Ramanathapuram, Tinneely became Tirunelveli, Tanjore became Thanjavur and the picturesque Nilgiri hill resort Ootacamund became Udhagamandalam.

Improve Your Word Power

1. **anathema:** (a) rivalry (b) competition (c) detested thing (d) sickness.
2. **bedrock:** (a) resting place (b) meeting place (c) basic principle (d) hard surface
3. **consternation:** (a) anxiety (b) pain (c) pleasure (d) pride
4. **diffusion:** (a) confusion (b) spreading out (c) coercion (d) candid.
5. **effusion:** (a) natural (b) native (c) pouring out (d) disturbance.
6. **factotum:** (a) expert (b) labourer (c) guide (d) man of all work.
7. **gimmick:** (a) device (b) magic (c) chance (d) opportunity.
8. **haven:** (a) paradise (b) excellence (c) pure (d) refuge.
9. **inchoate:** (a) abortive (b) undeveloped (c) unreal (d) immoral.
10. **jargon:** (a) bombastic words (b) technical words (c) literary terms (d) religious tales.

11. **kowtow:** (a) be submissive (b) be aggressive (c) be offensive (d) be defensive.
12. **obstreperous:** (a) noisy (b) silent (c) disciplined (d) careful.
13. **pry:** (a) inquire (b) provoke (c) please (d) ignore.
14. **piquant:** (a) stimulating (b) depressing (c) diffident (d) perverse.
15. **quid pro quo:** (a) cancellation (b) confrontation (c) conciliation (d) compensation.
16. **ribald:** (a) modest (b) moderate (c) vulgar (d) inspiring.
17. **sabre-rattling:** (a) befriend (b) threaten (c) enrich (d) encourage.
18. **spawn:** (a) destroy (b) produce (c) reduce (d) increase.
19. **wry:** (a) harmless (b) artificial (c) superficial (d) distorted.
20. **xenophobia:** (a) intense fear (b) excitement (c) obsession (d) depression.

ANSWERS

1. **anathema:** (c) detested thing or person.
—Perpetuation of the policy of apartheid in South Africa is an **anathema** to the civilised world.
2. **bedrock:** (c) basic principle or fact, foundation.
—Equality of opportunity and the rule of law are the **bedrock** of Indian democracy.
3. **consternation:** (a) anxiety, dismay.
—To her great **consternation**, the teacher asked Rohini to make an extempore speech before the elite of the town.
4. **diffusion:** (b) spreading or sending out.
—The **diffusion** of poisonous gases into the atmosphere is telling upon the health of city-dwellers.
5. **effusion:** (c) pouring out.
—Keats' love letters to Fanny Browne are an excellent **effusion** of his emotions and sensuous feelings.
6. **factotum:** (d) man of all work, a handy-man.
—He was an envy of not only an all-powerful bureaucracy but also the political **factotums**.
7. **gimmick:** (a) device, trick.
—A successful salesman is gifted with the ability to use every **gimmick** under the sun to sell himself and his wares.
8. **haven:** (d) refuge, place of safety.
—Many a youngster looks to the thrill world of films in Bombay as his ultimate **haven**.
9. **inchoate:** (b) undeveloped, existing only in elements.
—One should not hope to lead the world with inchoate ideas and untried conduct.
10. **jargon:** (b) technical words.
—The speaker failed to communicate with the audience because he used so much **jargon** in his lecture.
11. **kowtow:** (a) be submissive or humble.

- The regional party leaders refused to **kowtow** to the party's wishes on important national issues.
12. **obstreperous:** (a) noisy, unruly, boisterous.
—The 'nouveau-riche' have become **obstreperous** after their sudden rise in social hierarchy.
13. **pry:** (a) inquire, search.
—To **pry** into the private affairs of others is both unwarranted as well as unworthy.
14. **piquant:** (a) stimulating, sparkling.
—The narrative part of the story, though incidentally, was highly **piquant** in effect.
15. **quid pro quo:** (d) compensation, consideration.
—For the timely help rendered by the stranger, I must find him a **quid pro quo**.
16. **ribald:** (c) vulgar, obscene.
—Most Indian films thrive on **ribald** scenes and senseless violence.
17. **sabre-rattling:** (b) frighten, threaten.
—Hurling of challenges and making frequent use of rhetoric in bilateral affairs is liable to be mistaken for **sabre-rattling**.
18. **spawn:** (b) produce, generate.
—Our entire educational infrastructure needs to be rectified before it spawns ghastly tragedies in sensitive minds.
19. **wry:** (d) distorted, twisted.
—What made the poet-painter popular was his **wry** humour coupled with his lack of pretensions.
20. **xenophobia:** (a) intense dislike or fear of foreigners.
—History bears testimony to the fact that excessive suspicion can lead to **xenophobia**.

Appointments Etc

Appointed; Elected Etc

Ali Abdullah Saleh: He has been appointed the first President of newly-United Republic of Yemen.

Ilion Iliescu: He has been elected as the President of Romania.

Lee Teng-Hui: He has been appointed President of Taiwan.

Cesar Gaviria: He has been elected as the President of Columbia.

Jozef Antall: He has been elected as Prime Minister of Hungary.

Haider Abu Bakr Al-Attas: He has been appointed Prime Minister of Republic of Yemen.

Pei Tsun: He has been appointed Prime Minister of Taiwan.

Girish Saxena: He has been appointed as the Governor of Jammu & Kashmir.

Virendra Verma: He has been appointed Governor of Punjab.

Surjit S. Barnala: He has been appointed Governor of Tamil Nadu.

B.D. Gupta: He has been appointed as the Chief Minister of Haryana.

K.L. Chisi: He has been appointed as the Chief Minister of Nagaland.

S.R. Bommai: He has been elected President of the Janata Dal.

Dr Frank Bracho: He is the new Ambassador of Venezuela to India.

Mohamed Bin Mohamed Ali Hubeishi: He has been appointed Ambassador of Republic of Yemen to India.

G.S. Bajpai: He has been appointed Chief of Research and Analysis Wing (RAW).

Resigned

Lee Huan: Prime Minister of Taiwan.

George Fernandes: He has been divested of the additional charge of Kashmir affairs.

N.K. Mukarji: Governor of Punjab.

Jagmohan: Governor of Jammu & Kashmir.

P.C. Alexander: Governor of Tamil Nadu.

S.C. Jamir: Chief Minister of Nagaland.

O.P. Chautala: Chief Minister of Haryana.

Distinguished Visitors

K.P. Bhattarai: Prime Minister of Nepal.

J.W. Wentworth: Deputy Minister for Education and Culture of Namibia.

Robert Gates: Special envoy of President George Bush of U.S.A.

Willy Brandt: Former Chancellor of West Germany.

Stephen Solarz: US Congressman and Chairman of the US House Foreign Relations sub-Committee on Asia and Pacific Affairs.

Die

Maharaj Charan Singh: The spiritual head of the Radha Swami Satsang. He was 74.

EVENTS

MAY

10—More than 600 people die as a massive cyclone hits coastal Andhra Pradesh.

13—Coup bid is foiled in Madagascar.

14—19 persons are killed in terrorist violence in Punjab.

21—Mirwaiz (religious head) of Kashmir Moulvi Mohammed Farooq is shot dead by unidentified gunmen. At least 20 people are killed when security forces open fire on a procession carrying his body.

22—North and South Yemen officially merge into a Unified Republic of Yemen.

—Chief Minister of Haryana, Mr O.P. Chautala resigns.

—Fiji orders closure of Indian embassy.

26—140 persons are killed and 300 hurt in clashes in Hyderabad and Karachi in Sindh Province of Pakistan.

27—The first multi-party elections in Myanmar (Burma) in 30 years are held.

28—Myanmar's main opposition party, NLD, emerges victorious in general elections.

—27 persons are killed in violence in Punjab.

30—Four-day summit between President Bush of USA and President Gorbachov of USSR, begins.

JUNE

1—N.K. Mukarji, Governor of Punjab, resigns.

—The inaugural session of G-15 summit begins in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

2—President Bush of USA and President Gorbachov of USSR sign trade, arms reduction pact.

5—13 terrorists are among 35 persons killed in Punjab.

7—South Africa lifts emergency, restoring a wide array of freedoms to the country's majority black population.

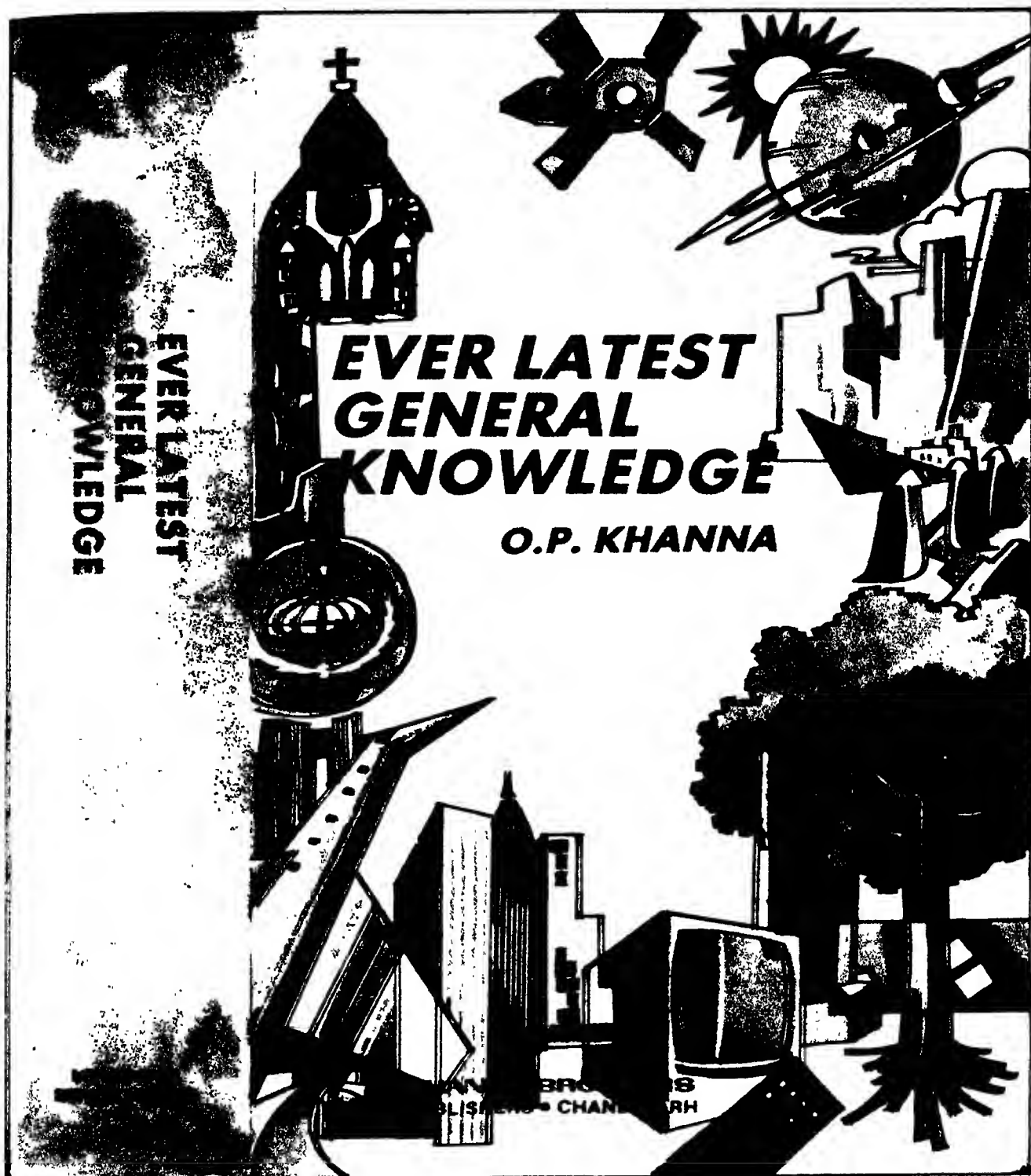
—Bandh hits life in Punjab. 14 persons including three terrorists are killed.

8—India and Nepal agree to end their 14-month-old trade and transit row and restore the status quo ante in bilateral ties in its entirety on both sides.

9—14th World Cup Football Tournament begins in Milan, Italy.

—President of Czechoslovakia Mr Vaclav Havel's Civic Forum and its Slovak counterpart, Public Against Violence, win an absolute majority in first free elections since 1946.

10—Bulgaria holds first free multi-party elections after 40 years of unchallenged Communist rule.



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A LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

Another Landmark

Dear Reader,

From every point of view, our August Annual was a notable success. In fact, so heavy was the demand that we could not cope with the orders of our distributors for more copies even after additional printing—another landmark in our path of success. We wish to convey our regrets to those who could not get a copy because the supplies were quickly sold out.

Since we intend to make every issue of the magazine more and more useful to our numerous readers, we suggest that all present and prospective patrons should purchase their copy early—so soon as a new issue reaches the market—so as to avoid disappointment.

Starting with the September issue, we have introduced yet another distinctive and highly useful feature—Descriptive Questions—in view of the fact that such questions are being made compulsory in certain examinations. We feel sure that our readers will appreciate our special efforts in this direction.

We invite suggestions for inclusion of more material in the magazine for the benefit of candidates for various competitive examinations. The new trends among paper setters certainly call for notice. We shall, as usual, try our best to implement such suggestions. Our motto is "service to India's youth", regardless of the additional labour and cost it might involve. Our increasing circulation is evidence of the growing popularity of "C.M." and of the appreciation by our readers. A few of the many letters of commendation we receive regularly are being published as part of the Readers' Forum in this issue.

With the end of the lazy, slothful days of summer and the start of the season that is conducive to earnest studies, all those young men and women who aspire to bright careers will, we are sure, make the best of their time. We are at their service in helping them to achieve their goal.

With best wishes,

Yours sincerely,

E. J. S. S.

Crisis upon Crisis

The peasant patriarch Devi Lal overplayed his hand in hissing right and left in Ministers of the Union Cabinet of which he himself was the second in command as Deputy Prime Minister. Through thoughtless and ill-founded allegations made in an interview to the "Illustrated Weekly of India", he precipitated yet another crisis in the National Front Government. Many of his colleagues (some of whom he strongly condemned as corrupt and characterless) could not stand the insults any more and were on unassailable ground in insisting on his removal from the Cabinet. Mr V.P. Singh, whom his Deputy criticised as being "spineless", at last acted firmly as a Prime Minister should, dismissing him in a midnight drama for having violated the principle of collective responsibility and all accepted codes of conduct.

Few tears were shed for Mr Devi Lal, who was humiliated beyond his calculations, but he virtually asked for it. By taking the fateful decision only after full consultations with, and approval of, Janata Dal leaders, including several Chief Ministers, and, equally important, with the consent of the BJP and CPI(M) leaders who are supporters of the National Front Government, Mr V.P. Singh saved himself from the charge of acting arbitrarily or undemocratically. He has emerged stronger from the tussle for power, even as Mr Devi Lal has suffered a major setback in his prestige and popularity. Worse, his claim of commanding majority support in the party and alliance he so earnestly forged last year stands exposed. Almost all the parties and groups directly concerned deplored his tactless actions which threatened to bring about downfall of the Government. Thus he has been isolated, the only vocal supporters being his son, Mr Om Prakash Chautala, who warned that his father's dismissal would have "serious consequences".

There could be no doubt that the defeated Jan leader will not accept his humiliation quietly; he is down but not out. He is determined to fight it out. His media strategy for taking revenge is obvious enough. The first thing he tried was by denouncing the dismissal as the result of a conspiracy of the urban elite. But in the process he has placed in the hands of the media a powerful weapon. He plans to use the State to create a propaganda campaign and make them doubt the alleged impartiality of the judiciary. The possibility of the peasant

now that he is out of power remains to be seen. The masses and the kisan leadership are already asking questions. He may be disillusioned, but there are so many imperfections in the current political situation, with factionalism, gross mismanagement, set-up, that one must keep one's fingers crossed and wait. Mr Devi Lal's fate is sealed for quite some time. The next time, know, another drama may soon be staged.

The tragedy of the situation is too bold. The nation urgently needs politicians who have a full sense of responsibility and who would bring dignity to the high office they hold. We actually have Ministers who care more for personal and family interests than for anything else. Secondly, the people voted the National Front to office in the hope that it would serve the country and ensure a clean, efficient and effective administration. But what do we have? The nation needs a squabbling set which has not ensured even a stable government, not to speak of one which is efficient and effective. The people's vote in November, 1989, was for a change, but what sort of change have we got? Is it not a change for the worse from the viewpoint of stability? There was corruption in high circles during the Rajiv regime, but there was hardly any low level case of forgery of letters or display of falseness. In the past month or so there was not much talk of corruption but there was untraced forgery. Meanwhile, the public sector and public administration are suffering grievously.

What has the future in store for the masses whose confidence in their hopefully chosen leaders has been rudely shaken? Mr Devi Lal has already disclosed his intention to join a new struggle, ostensibly to safeguard the interests of the farmers. He is not repentant at all for creating a major crisis but has a defiant posture as if he is the wronged party and is the victim of a "conspiracy" of the anti-farmer urban elite. The situation is obviously bad. It is not any conspiracy, but the predominance of anti-farmer interests that has led to this sorry plight in which Mr Devi Lal finds himself. The net result of the current situation is that the nation is being led by a set of leaders who are not interested in the welfare of the masses. The only way to save the nation from the horrors of a new era is to elect a government that is truly representative of the masses. The people must be vigilant and must not let the current situation continue.

READERS' FORUM

THE WORST PHASE

Water is to fish what police is to democracy, aridity is to plants, anti-social elements are to society, parental care is to children and leaders are to the led.

Police, justice, sound administration, equality and peace are certain pillars on which the edifice of democracy stands. But alas! India, being the biggest democracy, runs counter to these sound concepts. It is a polity where the police and the safety paraphernalia, meant to ensure public security, have lost credibility. The administrators fear criminals and give asylum to the anti-social elements; politicians, who are supposed to lead the nation to the pinnacle of glory, patronise the hooligans, musclemen, goondas, gangsters and the corrupt police to achieve their narrow ends and win elections by political skulduggery and other malpractices. Cooperation and collaboration, true safeguards of democracy, are bypassed in the process.

If this sorry state of affairs continues, State machinery would collapse, its lofty principles and morals would be thrown to the winds, its cherished goal of peace would get lost and, above all, the much-sought unity and integrity would vanish. Hence the police should respect its *khaki* and the politicians their political holster.

Vani Vihar Prasanta Kumar Nayak

Your sharp but factual editorial "The Worst Phase" (Aug '90) presents a graphic picture of a recent phenomenon which is threatening to dismember the very framework of our social and political system.

The emerging band of paid bootligans is flourishing because of administrative and official apathy, neglect of duty and of our objectives. The ultras are ready to do any condemnable work, given financial and political patronage. Their character is symbolised by violence, anarchy and disorder.

Our social set-up and polity have been completely eroded of moral values. The power of money, coupled with the frenzy of muscle power, creates havoc in the minds of people in the streets.

There is much confusion, instability and noise. The whole system seems to be topsy-turvy; anarchy seems to have been let loose in the world.

No sign of hope is visible on the horizon. The future seems to be dark and dismal. But we must not lose heart.

Samastipur Sanjoy Kumar

With reference to the editorial in the August issue of "C.M.", I would urge that the growing nexus between lawless elements and the police, and the shelter given to both by the politicians in the ruling party should be ended. If this is not done, our democracy would be a total failure.

New Delhi Sumeet Kumar Mehta

DISTORTIONS IN INDIA'S DEMOCRACY

Politicisation of the judiciary, prolonging

of socio-economic inequalities, political vendetta, booth capturing, rigging of elections, massive illiteracy, colossal poverty and several anti-national and secessionist trends characterise Indian democracy today. Poll reforms are only a partial remedy of the distortions.

What is required is a thorough overhaul of the present structure. A disciplined socio-economic and political system, devoid of corruption and selfish interests, alone would help.

Boudh Maheswar Nayak

We seem to be providing a listless legacy to posterity which will certainly blame us when it discerns a ludicrous contrast between pre- and post-independent politicians. The need of the hour, therefore, is serious introspection by our leaders who should pledge to give India a flying start for entering the next century.

Varanasi Jaideep Barman

Had Abraham Lincoln lived in today's world, he would have changed his concept of democracy. It has now been reduced only to a form of government by a small group of corrupt and incompetent people who, unfortunately, are given a mandate to rule the country by none other than ourselves.

In July we witnessed, for a short time, a staggering government (thanks to internal squabbles), which made democracy a farce; not to speak of the corruption, graft and nepotism at each step. The present-day leaders are taking us along an unending road. Something has to be done before it is too late. But who will take the lead? That is the crucial question.

Vani Vihar Rajib Das

UNREST IN NORTH-EAST

The "Seven Sisters" of the North-East have great strategic importance for India's defence; so political stability in these States is vital. However, unrest has been brewing there due to the prolonged neglect by politicians, including legislators, and their failure to ensure a sound economy.

In order to attract attention, the people are sometimes compelled to resort to radical actions. To placate the people, money is poured into the areas of unrest without giving due attention to its utilisation. Eventually, it reaches the pockets of greedy power brokers and other money grabbers. Meanwhile, the masses continue to suffer.

It is high time the Government viewed the political and socio-cultural aspirations of these people more seriously and brought them into the mainstream of national development.

New Delhi Manesh Garg

SPECIAL STATUS FOR KASHMIR

Your feature "Special Status for Kashmir" in the July issue is very informative and to the point. No doubt, the special status has been used only as a political window since the accession of Jammu and Kashmir to India in 1947. But the scene has already changed and much water has flowed through this Valley

since then. It is now a burning question: Has the special status solved the problem of Kashmir which they faced at the time of independence? Did it satisfy the Muslims? Obviously not.

The special status has failed to improve the conditions in the valley. In the circumstances, Article 370 of the Constitution should be abrogated without delay. When the people of the rest of India can enjoy all the rights under the Constitution without any special provisions, why can't the Kashmiri?

Actually, the special status isolates the people of J & K from the rest of the country; it often forces them to think that they are not Indians, they are "special", separated from the other parts of India. This feeling tends to make them anti-Indian. In order to normalise the situation, the Government should abrogate the special status and bring the people of J & K into the mainstream of national life.

Bankura Somnath Paul

NEW INDUSTRIAL POLICY

Finding markets to sell goods at an economical price is a 'must'. This stands as a great challenge to industrialists to evolve new technologies to produce goods which can compete with others in the world market. If the public sector cannot perform well, the task should be handed over to the private sector.

The steps to liberalise policies, improve competitive ability, enhance exports and at the same time check imports, allowing foreign investment, etc. are most welcome. The new industrial policy seems to be better than the previous ones but the expected results would be seen only after a couple of years.

Kurnool P. Sivaram Prasad

FELICITATIONS TO "CM"

Please accept my heartfelt congratulations for entering the 32nd year of publication. I hope in the years to come our beloved "C.M." will help us with more vigour and energy to win top positions in all competitive examinations.

Dhenkanal Prakash Ch. Panda

I have been a regular reader of "C.M." for the last two years. It is a very useful and interesting magazine for all competitive examinations. It is an ocean of knowledge—current affairs, numerical ability, test of reasoning, essays and other useful material.

Gaya Tarun Kumar

I was much confused till I started reading "C.M.". It has helped me to prepare for various competitions in a systematic manner. I am sure that with the help of "C.M.", I will be able to build up a good career.

Muzaffarpur Sunil Kumar

May be you have recently appeared in any competitive examination.

We shall be grateful if you could send us the question papers. The original papers will be returned along with the postage spent by you.

Your gesture will be highly appreciated.

Notes on Current National Affairs

- * *OUSTER OF DEVI LAL*
- * *MID-TERM POLL SPECULATION*
- * *RAJIV GANDHI'S OFFENSIVE*
- * *BOFORS ACCOUNTS: CONG DEMAND*
- * *JK EXTREMISTS PLAN MAJOR ATTACK*
- * *NEW DEADLINE FOR SC, ST POSTS*
- * *MEHAM POLL: COMMISSION'S VERDICT*
- * *INDIA'S CONCERN OVER LANKA VIOLENCE*
- * *CRITICAL SITUATION IN ASSAM*
- * *CAPITATION FEE ABOLITION*
- * *URBAN LAND CEILINGS REVISION*

Ouster of Devi Lal

At long last, after prolonged consultations with and consent of his colleagues as well as allies of the National Front, Mr V.P. Singh acted firmly and dismissed Mr Devi Lal, the Deputy Prime Minister, on August 1. Mr Devi Lal had been acting very much like a hulk in a China shop, defying all codes of conduct and creating hurdles in the functioning of both the Central Cabinet and the ruling party. He had hurled charges of corruption and other irregularities against several senior Ministers (especially Mr Arun Nehru) and described Mr V.P. Singh as "spineless". He had based his charge-sheet on a letter later found to be forged, supposedly sent to the President of India in 1987, accusing some leading politicians of accepting commissions in the Bofors gun case.

Moreover, instead of promptly apologising for the improprieties he had committed, he gave evasive answers to the questions put to him and the explanations sought by the Prime Minister. In an interview he gave to the "Illustrated Weekly" of India he used highly objectionable words to describe his Cabinet colleagues; later he tried to wriggle out of the awkward situation by contending that he had been misquoted.

Mr V.P. Singh held Mr Devi Lal responsible for "violating all canons of collective responsibility", specifically of "forwarding a forged letter to him", levelling very serious allegations against Cabinet colleagues and making derogatory remarks against Mr V.P. Singh himself. Although Mr Devi Lal contended that he had no intention of maligning either the Prime Minister or his colleagues, he declined to disclose who delivered the letter to him alleged to have been written by Mr V.P. Singh to the President of India, on November 26, 1987. The letter had turned out to be crude forgery involving the head of government and the head of State.

Although Mr Devi Lal was totally in the wrong in creating another major crisis in the National Government, he said after his dismissal that he would not take the insult lying down and would fight it out at the party level. He intends to raise the issue of the rural

poor for whose interests he has always worked.

There was a crisis in the National Front earlier also, on July 14, when the Prime Minister had sent his resignation to party President S.R. Bommai. He took this step to protest against Mr Om Parkash Chautala's re-induction as the Haryana Chief Minister. Six other Union Ministers also resigned. Following strong protests by various parties, Mr Chautala stepped down and was succeeded by Mr Hukam Singh.

Mid-term Poll Speculation

There was widespread speculation in the country in the last week of July about a mid-term election following the crisis in the ruling National Front. The BJP, though a supporter of the V.P. Singh regime, has already started preparations for a mid-term poll, though these are described as "contingency plans" to be put into effect in case the present Government broke up. At the National Executive meeting in Madras on July 21, party President L.K. Advani explained that the threat to the stability of the National Front Government was posed not by the BJP (withdrawing its support) but from within the Janata Dal's own ranks.

The Chautala episode had gravely impaired the credibility of the Government and heightened the sense of uncertainty about its future. The Prime Minister's assertion at his press conference that his Government had emerged stronger from the recent events sounded unconvincing. Mr Advani's assessment is that the Centre, finding itself constantly in crisis situations, would gradually lose its efficacy in dealing with the core problems such as terrorism, secessionism, communalism, inflation and unemployment. The Government's grip on the bureaucracy would weaken. Its standing in the community of nations would also decline. The V.P. Singh Government might be faced with a situation in which its survival would become its principal concern.

Several BJP leaders feel their party would be the gainer if there were a snap poll. The party now has the advantage of running the State governments in Rajasthan, M.P. and Himachal Pradesh. Besides, the issues such as Kashmir and

Babri-Ram Janambhoomi dispute, on which the BJP made electoral gains in the last elections, were still alive and kicking.

Call for eliminating communalism: The BJP Executive called for eschewing communalism in any form, immediate implementation of the Sarkaria Commission report on Centre-State relations and true autonomy to the electronic media.

Mr Advani made it clear there was no question of withdrawing the party's support to the National Front Government. The equation between the Janata Dal, the BJP and the Communist parties continued in order to keep the Congress from coming to power. The BJP wishes that the Government would survive its full term. He did not think that the Left parties wanted to destabilise the present political situation. The alliance between the Janata Dal and the BJP is mutually beneficial.

No Question of Poll: The Janata Dal General Secretary, on July 24, asserted that the National Front Government at the Centre would run its full term and there was no question of a mid-term poll. He claimed that the Chautala episode brought a gain: the Dal had learnt a lesson to have party matters sorted out within the party and not to allow any member to rush to the press to air his grievances.

Rajiv Gandhi's Offensive

In an attempt to take full advantage of the factionalism and dismal performance of the National Front Government, Congress President Rajiv Gandhi has launched a full-scale offensive against it. He has called upon his party to gear up for a mid-term poll. At the AICC session on July 23, he went to the extent of accusing the National Front and its allies of colluding with secessionist elements. He attributed the deterioration of the situations in Assam, Punjab and Kashmir to the Government's "soft attitude" towards terrorists.

Mr Rajiv Gandhi strongly criticised the Government for its failure on all fronts. It had "succumbed to US pressure" on Super-301 clause and on the Amnesty International issue. He

warned that the Government policies would ruin the economy and jeopardise the country's independence. He charged the BJP with making a mockery of religion by exploiting it for political purposes; the BJP was most "irreligious" as it wanted to weaken the "religiosity" of India.

He also accused the DMK Government in Tamil Nadu of contemplating to start a secessionist movement. His information was that the DMK was "watching" the LTTE moves in Sri Lanka before taking a final decision. A large coastal belt in the State was now "virtually under the control of the LTTE". If the LTTE is successful in Sri Lanka, the DMK might start "a secessionist movement in Tamil Nadu", he contended. Intelligence Bureau reports indicated that the LTTE and DMK were together sending weapons to Punjab terrorists. "The Centre knows about it and is doing nothing."

Bofors Accounts: Cong Demand

The Congress has demanded that the National Front Government immediately reveal the names of "illegal recipients of illegitimate payments" in the Bofors case, failing which it should "cease forthwith its utterly dishonourable campaign of lies, innuendo and calumny".

The political resolution of the AICC pointed out that when the National Front Government came to power it had promised to reveal the names of the recipients in the Bofors kickbacks case within 15 days but more than 250 days have passed and all that "we have had are eight months of prevarication, flasehoods and the deliberate use of the instruments of State for fraudulent political purposes".

The recent judgement of a London court in a libel suit relating to a story in a Swedish newspaper was "a severe indictment of the Indian Government and the investigation being conducted by the CBI". Demanding an end to "mischief and malafides", the Congress has asked for a confession from the Prime Minister that "he had misled the nation and maligned the Congress president".

JK Extremists Plan Major Attack

According to reports received by an American news network (CNN), the Kashmiri separatists are planning a terrorist campaign outside Kashmir to increase the level of tension and bring the prospect of a war between India and Pakistan closer. The separatists are planning the campaign with weapons acquired in Pakistan and new recruits from among the recently arrived "refugees" from Kashmir. The Kashmiri militants are also reportedly getting help from Afghan rebels.

Havoc in Valley: A Press Guild of India report late in July disclosed that over 400 people have been killed and nearly 2,00,000 have fled Jammu and Kashmir in the past three years. Many of the victims were top lawyers, judges, businessmen, shopkeepers and engineers. A J & K *Sahayata Samiti* report gave graphic descriptions of the atrocities on the hapless people. Fundamentalists and militants had infiltrated every sphere of the Government; what ruled high was not the writ of the Government but that of the J & K Liberation Front.

Temples and homes have been burnt down, shops looted, Indian Independence Day, 1989, was boycotted, Pakistan Day celebrated, Pakistan standard time observed and even wrist watches are being worn on the right hand, as in Pakistan.

The identification with Pakistan was complete. The fundamentalists and militants had sent threatening letters to the Hindus in Srinagar and other towns, saying that their objective was to Islamise Kashmir. The report referred to the appalling condition of the 45,000 refugee families housed in tents in the Jammu valley, 2,500 in Udhampur and nearly 10,000 families in New Delhi. Bank accounts of fundamentalists and militants had been transferred from the State Bank of India to the Jammu and Kashmir Bank and all references to India wiped out from shops and stores. Brazen Pakistani jingoism has been much in evidence; the militants had already renamed Anantnag as Islamabad and Sampatwari village as Salmatwari.

New Deadline for SC, ST Posts

In pursuance of its policy of redressing the grievances of the backward classes, the Union Government has decided that all posts reserved for the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in Government service which are lying vacant at present, would be filled by April 14, 1991, the day B.R. Ambedkar's birth centenary celebrations conclude.

Union Labour and Welfare Minister Ram Vilas Paswan disclosed in mid-July that all government officials had been warned against laxity in implementing provisions for the welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. Officers found guilty of non-implementation of measures for the uplift of this section would be liable to disciplinary action and even imprisonment. For this purpose, the National Commission on Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes had been given special statutory powers to prosecute erring officers. The Minister also gave the assurance that all social and economic inequalities would be abolished soon and the SCs and STs brought in the mainstream.

As for welfare measures for other weaker sections of society, the Government proposed to bring legislation in the coming session of Parliament for reservation in government services for the handicapped, both physical and mental, for class I, II and III categories of services there would be three per cent reservation. In class IV category there will be four per cent reservation.

Talking about the Mandal Commission report, the Minister reiterated that the Government was committed to implementing it. For this purpose, an administrative order would be passed soon. The decision to implement the Commission's recommendations need not be placed before Parliament as an administrative order is deemed sufficient.

Meham Poll: Commission's Verdict

The dismal echoes of the Meham (Haryana) election, held on February 27 this year, which has

become the cause of much political trouble and brought discredit to the ruling Janata Dal, are still being heard. The blatant poll malpractices adopted there are repeatedly quoted by opposition political parties and others as a standing stigma on the country's electoral system. The latest development in this regard is the verdict of the Election Commission's official observer, who has stated that the polling for that seat was rigged with the active help of local officials. The observer, a senior IAS officer, has made the following points:

He saw a DSP stamping ballot papers in Chandi village. The local bureaucracy, particularly the SP of Rohtak, delayed the deployment of Central forces in sensitive villages, thus giving time for rigging. In spite of what he had seen and heard, the Returning Officer maintained that there had been "no irregularity" and the polling had been "peaceful and normal". Many villagers alleged that a son of Mr Om Parkash Chautala had come in police vehicle and rigged the poll, a charge found "not without merit". There is basis in the allegation by the independent candidate, Mr Dangi, that there was excessive deployment of the police with the intention to terrorise and rig.

Nor did Mr Chautala's administration come out any better in the re-polling in eight booths on February 28. The observer had to suspend polling in all eight booths after reports were received that villagers had surrounded the DIG, Rohtak, at Mehram and the hapless police official asked for the army to rescue him and his men!

A former Supreme Court Judge has been directed to make an enquiry into the death of a candidate for Mehram re-poll.

India's Concern over Lanka Violence

The recent escalation of violence in Sri Lanka, which is virtually facing a civil war, has caused deep concern to the Government of India; so it has urged a political solution through dialogue among all parties concerned. In an official reaction to the growing violence, the Government reiterated that it will not allow its territory to be

used as a base by any group of militants for their activities.

Prime Minister V.P. Singh called for a meeting of the Political Affairs Committee of the Cabinet to review the disturbing situation. Mr M. Karunanidhi, Tamil Nadu Chief Minister, is believed to have suggested that India should exercise its good offices, if not some form of intervention, to prevent what he described as the "genocide of Tamil population in Sri Lanka".

Colombo's appreciation: The Sri Lankan Government has welcomed the Indian Prime Minister's stand on the current conflict in the island State. It is described as a sober attitude and reflected India's policy of non-interference in Lanka affairs.

Calling the LTTE "cheats and liars", the Lanka Minister for Defence asked the Tamil Nadu leader not to trust the LTTE. He pointed out how the LTTE had broken the trust of the Sri Lankan Government after President Premadasa had bent over backwards to accommodate them. The Minister vehemently refuted the LTTE allegations that the Sri Lankan air force was using napalm bombs, and asked international agencies to make an on-the-spot survey.

Alarming Influx from Lanka: The continuing Civil War in Sri Lanka and the losses being suffered by LTTE in the fighting with security personnel have led to an inflow of thousands of Tamil refugees into India. The number of the immigrants is causing a major problem, especially in Tamil Nadu, where most of them want to take shelter, many on a permanent basis. It is estimated that about 29,000 Sri Lankan Tamils have so far entered Tamil Nadu. At the current rate of daily inflow of 2,000 to 3,000, the refugee influx may well cross the one lakh mark within a few weeks.

This assessment has been conveyed by the Tamil Nadu Chief Minister, Mr M. Karunanidhi, in a letter. He has urged the Indian Prime Minister to persuade the Sri Lankan Government to set up refugee camps within Sri Lanka with assistance from the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees.

Enquiries made in refugee camps in

the State indicated that a large number of displaced persons in Sri Lanka's Tamil areas faced starvation conditions. Those who arrived in Tamil Nadu in recent weeks included a sizable number of middle class and well-to-do families. As a consequence, the resources of the State Government, had come under severe strain. Besides, continued stay of the refugees for a long spell would create a host of problems and social tensions.

Critical Situation in Assam

The current phase of political and other developments in Assam portends the emergence of yet another crisis, the main causes being the breakdown of law and order, the endless squabbles in the ruling party (the Asom Gana Parishad—A.G.P.), and the increasing role played by extremist elements, especially ULFA which reportedly runs a parallel administration in certain isolated areas and has created panic among the people.

To cap it all, the AGP Government headed by Mr Prafulla Mohanta has proved to be inefficient. The people who had high hopes in the ministry feel disillusioned. Instability is writ large on the face of present Assam. With the State Assembly elections fast approaching (these are due in December this year), new groups and alignments are emerging and the general opinion is that the present leaders will not be returned to power.

The political assassinations, the kidnappings, the extortions and other acts of utter lawlessness have brought much discredit to the Government whose credibility now stands at zero. The continuing differences between Chief Minister Mohanta and Home Minister B.K. Phukan have worsened the situation.

The Home Minister had tendered his resignation owning moral responsibility for the murders and kidnappings of high officials, but after some days he agreed to continue in office because of the threat to the ruling party and other reasons.

All the plans to tackle the extremists' menace in the region have proved fruitless, bringing discredit to both the National Front Government and the

State Ministry. There seems to be discontentment among many sections of the employees and the people on one count or another. Three ULFA men were set free to save the lives of three Oil company officials, and this created a vicious circle, with ULFA coming on top.

A cynic described the present ministry as "a spider caught in its own web". More violence is feared in the State in the coming weeks. Several extremist groups have been formed and are becoming active. The All Bodo Students' Union is also posing a major challenge.

Capitation Fee Abolition

Capitation fee, which has been a major scandal in the arena of professional and other types of education, is sought to be abolished by the present Union Government and also by some of the State administrations. The attempts in this regard made in the past have not been very successful because the basic factors have remained unaffected. Now a more systematic attempt is being made. The Union Government has set up regional bodies to inspect all such colleges in the country which charge capitation fees in violation of the Government's instructions in order to close down such of these institutions as do not have at least 80 per cent of the necessary infrastructure.

The evil is especially prevalent in engineering and medical colleges in Maharashtra and the South. The Government intends to give financial and other assistance to such of these colleges as have the requisite infrastructure; they will be allowed a specified period of time to provide all the equipment needed. If they fail to do so, they would be closed down.

Unfortunately, certain State Governments in Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and elsewhere have been giving permission to politicians and others enjoying political patronage and considerable influence. There are at least 180 private engineering colleges in the country out of which 137 are unaided and have failed to get the approval of the All-India Council of Technical Education. Maharashtra has the largest number of private engineering colleges—61. Out of these 51 are not approved. The Supreme Court had upheld the Government's right to close down the unauthorised institutions. The Government intends to restructure the management of such colleges and also to arrange merit-based admissions so as to eliminate the methods adopted by managements to make money on the sly, by opening engineering and medical colleges, most of which are substandard.

Urban Land Ceilings

Revision

In order to remove the shortcomings in the existing Urban Land Ceiling Act the Union Government intends to make several amendments. The view of experts in housing and other planned sectors is that the law has not been effective in achieving the aim of making land available to the landless. The National Commission on Urbanisation has made several recommendations in this regard and these are to be incorporated in the law by making amendments.

The Urban Land Ceiling and Regularisation Act, 1976, was enacted with the object of preventing concentration of urban property and bringing about equitable distribution of land. As many as 17 States and all Union Territories have adopted this law, but the enforcement has been unsatisfactory.

It is now proposed to allow the landowner to utilise his surplus land for housing projects. A general criticism of the Act was that it had adversely affected building activities in the country and needlessly put restrictions on the transfer of land in urban areas, thus pushing up prices. The cumbersome procedures prescribed in the law led to harassment of the public.

The surplus land actually taken over by the authorities was very small—only 9,762 hectares out of the 2,11,670 hectares declared surplus. The Housing Ministers' Conference held in 1987 and 1988 had recommended amendments so as to pave the way for increased availability of surplus land for housing schemes and infrastructural development. The Act also stands in the way of execution of the National Housing Policy, announced recently by the National Front Government.

Notes on Current International Affairs

- * MORE POWERS FOR GORBACHOV
- * MOVE ON "INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY"
- * BENAZIR CLAIMS TOUR GAINS
- * INDIA, PAK DISCUSS PEACE PACKAGE
- * NEW HURDLE IN ENDING APARTHEID
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- * CALL FOR UN ROLE IN CAMBODIA
- * P.M.'S SOVIET VISIT
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- * U.S.-SOVIET DEAL ON AFGHANISTAN
- * U.S. ROLE IN NEPAL AFFAIRS

More Powers for Gorbachov

President Gorbachov scored another victory in mid-July when the 28th congress of the Soviet's ruling party (CPSU) re-elected him as the General Secretary. He thus combines in himself the vast authority of the President and party General Secretary. "Perestroika" also gets a boost. Mr Gorbachov's victory was scored in fierce competition with the opponents of his efforts for democratisation. Now that he has been re-elected General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, he can continue to double as the party leader and the Head of State. But in the new conditions his power will no longer be as unlimited and all-embracing as it was at the time of the previous Soviet leaders. There are new factors of political influence in the country now.

In the State machinery an important "counter-balance" is the burgeoning Soviets of People's Deputies at various levels. The official policy, too, is increasingly influenced by the broad democratic movement of the masses and the national movements rising in different parts of the USSR. The role and independence of the mass media, too, is growing. This enables the public to step up control over the leadership's performance.

Radio, TV given autonomy: It is reliably learnt that President Gorbachov has given full autonomy to the State radio and TV committee, lifting the Communist Party's ideological control and monopoly over it. All the political parties, including the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, will now have to hire the TV channel on a commercial basis.

The decree indicates that Mr Gorbachov, after his victory over Communist hardliners, intends to take further radical steps to democratise Soviet society.

'Orgy of democracy': The head of Soviet TV and radio fears "an orgy of democracy" now that President Gorbachov has loosened controls on the State broadcasting monopoly. Former head of the State publishing committee commented: "Now I am more afraid of an orgy of democracy

rather than the party monopoly, when the monopoly is replaced by numerous demands put forth by various groups, parties, councils and organs." Hundreds of new groups have sprung up throughout the country in the last several years.

Arms for India Disfavoured: A powerful section of the Soviet Press has openly opposed Soviet arms supply to India. Reporting the possible delivery of a second nuclear submarine, a Soviet journal draws attention to mounting tensions on the Indo-Pak border and comments: "Why nuclear fuel to the fire of Indo-Pakistani disputes?" An influential Soviet daily and mouthpiece of the Soviet Young Communist League speaks of the delivery of aircraft, guns, tanks and missiles to India and Pakistan by the two Super Powers and says Delhi and Islamabad are "engaged vigorously in war preparations in conditions of growing tension over Kashmir".

A Weekly, "Moskovskie Novosti", recalling the handing over of the first nuclear submarine to India on lease, has challenged its expediency. In its opinion such a transfer of nuclear technologies for military purposes to other countries "does not correspond to the spirit of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT)".

In keeping with the thaw in the U.S.-Soviet relations, the Soviet Press does not mention at all the large-scale supply of U.S. arms to Islamabad. The opinion of some newspapers is that though the delivery of the second nuclear submarine can be justified, as it will be a commercial deal, restraint and circumspection "are needed in any arms deal, particularly if it concerns nuclear technologies". Their deliveries must be strictly banned.

United Germany in NATO accepted: The Soviet Union on July 17 reluctantly accepted NATO membership for a united Germany, breaking an East-West impasse over the future of post-Cold War Europe. Diplomats and analysts in NATO capitals welcomed the concession by the Soviet President, saying that it would increase stability in the region after German unification and assure the Western alliance of a solid role in the new Europe.

Mr Gorbachov told a joint news

conference with West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl: "Whether we like it or not, a time will come when a united Germany will be in NATO if that is its choice. Then, to some degree it can work together with the Soviet Union."

According to Mr Kohl, Soviet troops would be withdrawn from East Germany in three to four years after the signing of a bilateral agreement between the Soviet Union and a unified Germany. Both leaders had agreed that there would be no NATO troops on East German territory.

Stressing the "sovereignty of the Government and the German people on its territory", Mr Gorbachov hoped no nuclear weapons would be deployed there. Mr Kohl explained that the decision on entering NATO will be made after unification is completed and when the rights and duties of the four victors of World War II—France, Britain, the Soviet Union and the USA—end. United Germany can, in the exercise of its unlimited sovereignty, decide freely and itself, whether and which alliance it wants to belong to.

Communist Party on the Rocks:

As was widely feared by the Kremlin leadership, the influence and prestige of the Soviet Communist Party has been sharply eroded. In fact, the party is on the verge of a split. The prestige of the Government structures is on the decline also.

More than half the Soviet people believe that the Communist Party has lost its position as the leading force in society, according to a poll. There seems to be no coherent alternative either. According to shrewd observers, most members of the Democratic wing intend to leave the party, taking with them such popular new elected officials as the leaders of Moscow and Leningrad. They hold the view that if the Soviet Union is to build real democracy and a market economy, a prerequisite is to finally break the party's monopoly on power. Mr Gorbachov's vision of the Communist Party as a great, reborn, unifying force leading the Soviet Union into the future has never seemed more improbable than it does now.

The creation of a new Russian Communist Party, dominated by an

angry, orthodox fringe, leaves the party more polarised and anaemic than ever. The event is bound to hasten the exodus of democratic reformers and young people from the party's ranks.

Monopoly Renounced: The party recently released a draft programme declaring that it decisively renounces its political monopoly. The programme, entitled "Towards a humane democratic socialism", confirms the CPSU's decision to give up substituting economic management and State administrative agencies. It favours repairing the historical rift in the Socialist movement and developing cooperation with democratic parties and organisations, and movements striving for peace, democracy and social progress.

It denounces rigid centralisation and favours democratic principles competitive elections, replacing personnel in official positions, public openness, accountability and subordination of the minority to the majority along with the guaranteed rights of the minority to uphold its views, including in the party media. The draft, however, rejects the attempt by radicals to allow factions within the party, or giving up altogether the principle of democratic centralism. It also rejects the demand for de-politicising the army, the KGB and the Interior Ministry. The army is estimated to have one million communists.

Autonomy for provincial parties: The CPSU leadership promised greater independence to Communist parties of the republics and the right to members to form different platforms. But dissatisfied radicals served notice to Mr Gorbachov to swing to the left or face a split. The radicals, coming under the banner of "Democratic Platform" told Mr Gorbachov that his main tactical weapon of finding compromises had exhausted itself and he should decisively swing to the left to face the right wing onslaught.

The Russian Communist Party was formed at a congress dominated by Conservatives, and a hardliner was elected its chief. His election has led to fears of mass exodus from the CPSU; according to leaders of the "Democratic Platform" about 20,000 Communists left the party in Moscow itself in the first two days.

Move on "Intellectual Property"

A notable development in the international efforts to safeguard intellectual property rights has been the failure to reach an agreement for stronger protection in this regard. As usual, it is the U.S.A.'s rigid stand that has prevented an international accord on this question, even after prolonged negotiations. On several crucial issues concerning copyrights, patents and industrial designs, the US has taken positions which most other industrial countries are not ready to accept.

Intellectual property rights (IPR) form one of the contested "new areas" alongside trade in services that the Western nations placed on the agenda of GATT's trade liberalising Uruguay Round. They have been seeking tough GATT rules to prevent patent piracy, counterfeiting and other forms of theft of money-spinning ideas.

IPR was thought to be mainly a North-South issue in which rich nations were trying to persuade poorer nations to accept the need for more efficient IPR protection worldwide.

Developing countries fear that stringent protection would hinder their development and they have resisted the inclusion in GATT of a matter which they consider falls within the purview of the Geneva-based World Intellectual Property Organisation. Differences among the rich nations have emerged as serious obstacles to an agreement. A major stumbling block is US insistence that the Berne convention on copyright, which Washington signed last year, concerns only economic rights, not the moral or personal rights of an author to determine how his work is handled.

Benazir Claims Tour Gains

The net gains of Pakistan Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto's visits to 14 Islamic countries of West Asia and Africa in two phases have been nothing to boast of. Her aim was to win support of these countries for Pakistan's Kashmir policy, but all she has been able to ensure is assurance of Pakistan's

security and advice that Indo-Pak tensions should be resolved through negotiations. She returned home on July 17 after visiting Iraq, Kuwait, Morocco, Algeria and Baharain.

The primary purpose of her visit was to apprise brotherly Islamic countries about Pakistan's approach to the Kashmir issue and its security concerns. She claimed that a broad consensus on how to deal with the Kashmir issue had emerged at the Organisation of Islamic Countries (OIC) Foreign Ministers' meet at Cairo.

She claimed that India's diplomatic offensive on the Kashmir issue had "failed to mislead the world". She also refuted the "false propaganda" that the Pakistani position on Kashmir was not being understood. The object of her tours abroad was to cement the bonds with Islamic countries. She expressed satisfaction at the removal of the "hiatus" which had bedevilled Islamabad's relations with some Arab countries in recent years.

The army was deployed in Sind on internal security duties under article 147 of the Constitution. There were no differences between the civil administration and the army over its deployment. "The Government and the armed forces are one", she claimed.

"Disappointing Tour"? According to another report, Ms Bhutto's renewed diplomatic offensive to rally support for separatists in Jammu and Kashmir from influential Muslim States was far from being a success and belied her expectations in Iraq and Kuwait.

She received a setback with both the Iraqi and Kuwaiti leaders adopting a neutral approach. Observers described the Iraqi response as a big blow to Pakistan.

Ms Bhutto detailed a number of envoys and federal Ministers to visit over 20 countries as her special emissaries to muster support on the Kashmir issue.

JKLF warning to Pak: The Jammu & Kashmir Liberation Front has warned of a "showdown" with Islamabad if it tries to shut guerrilla training camps on its soil. "JKLF" leader Farouk Haider asserted that the guerrillas are fighting a war for Kashmir's indepen-

dence. Mr M.H. Rathore, Prime Minister of the Pakistani-occupied Kashmir, who led Ms Bhutto's party to electoral victory in POK, has dismissed the JKLF's demand for a united and independent Kashmir.

Since early March, thousands of guerrillas have slipped across the ceasefire line into POK, seeking military assistance. One estimate is that about 11,000 were scattered throughout POK, but other estimates put the figure closer to 4,000.

India, Pak discuss Peace Package

No settlement of the differences over the Kashmir and other issues was considered likely at the Indo-Pakistan Foreign Secretary-level talks at Islamabad on July 19, and none materialised. But far-sighted observers feel the very fact that the discussions were held in a cordial atmosphere and there was no breakdown or acrimony was itself a gain. Indian Foreign Secretary M. Dubey described the talks as "satisfactory". The talks did defuse the tensions, for the present anyway. Mr Dubey and his counterpart, Dr Tanvir Ahmed Khan, discussed point-by-point the seven-point package of confidence-building measures proposed by India on May 28 last.

The package includes military and non-military measures like exchange of information about military positions and army delegations, an agreement on non-violation of air space by military aircraft and ceasing of hostile propaganda aimed at inciting subversion and secession.

President's statement: Mr Ghulam Ishaq Khan, in a statement on July 18, assured that his country would not wage a war against India and would do nothing that might trigger one. He told Mr Dubey, who called on him, that both India and Pakistan could not "withstand a war".

However, Mr Ishaq Khan asserted that Pakistan would defend every inch of its land with all its might if war was imposed on it. Every nation should give up the idea that it could usurp any other country's territory. War would bring nothing except destruction.

The Kashmir issue was the cause of bitterness between the two countries since the partition of the subcontinent. Not only bilateral agreements but also the world community recognised it as such.

For lasting peace and friendship the "Kashmir dispute" must be resolved once and for all; if it was suppressed temporarily, it would continue to resurrect itself again and again.

New Hurdle in Ending Apartheid

The violence indulged in by extreme rightist groups, together with the continuing lawlessness in Natal, have created an unexpected obstacle in the early dismantling of the apartheid structure in South Africa. Presenting a report on July 21 on the implementation of the U.N. Assembly's declaration on apartheid adopted last year, the Secretary-General, Mr Perez de Cuellar, stated: "Beyond these concerns, there is a widespread belief that continuing resistance to change on the part of the entrenched structures of the system, particularly at the local levels, as well as existing security legislation, serve as Damoclean sword over free political activity."

Many South Africans believe that the confidence-building measures, emerging from both the Government and the people, could help reduce politically related violence. These could also help further the progress of a united and non-racial society.

A UN team had recently visited South Africa and met a cross-section of people and various organisations for assessing the situation. Progress is being made in creating a climate for free negotiations but several essential measures remain to be "fulfilled in their entirety". These include release of all political prisoners and detainees, end of the state of emergency throughout the country, repeal of all legislations designed to circumscribe political activities, removal of all troops from townships and cessation of political trials and executions. There is a consensus that the mechanism for a new Constitution should be the product of extensive consultations.

S. Arabia's Diplomatic Switch

A long-standing anomaly in international diplomacy was removed in the third week of July when Saudi Arabia diplomatically recognised China instead of Taiwan. It is regarded as a victory for Beijing. The decision came after a period in which Taiwan (Nationalist China) had some success in the Third World, getting States to recognise it rather than communist China.

Five nations—Grenada, Liberia, Belize, Lesotho and Guinea-Bissau—have accorded Taiwan diplomatic recognition in the last two years, with China breaking relations as soon as they did so. The number of nations recognising Taiwan as the Government of China is now 28.

While Taiwan's great and growing wealth and willingness to exchange increased aid for recognition has had some attraction for the Third World's mini-States, this factor has not affected wealthy Saudi Arabia. The recognition would probably have taken place much earlier had it not been for the Beijing massacre in June, 1989. Interestingly, China is attracting ever-growing quantities of investment from Taiwan itself.

For China the Saudi decision comes as a welcome relief, at a time when its previously prized relations with Western countries have greatly diminished. Recently, Indonesia finally agreed to resume ties with China, following the long freeze in the relationship after the attempted Communist coup in Jakarta in September, 1965.

Call for UN Role in Cambodia

Foreign Ministers from the Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN) on July 24 called on the five permanent members of the U.N. Security Council to play a more active role in resolving the Cambodian conflict. However, the Ministers told the U.N. representatives that the Big Powers must not impose their will in the search for a peaceful settlement of the 11-year old conflict.

The ASEAN Ministers were

convinced the Big Five could play a "more dominant role" in resolving the Cambodian problem. The ministers also stressed that "there can be no imposition of their will". The ASEAN Ministers, who held their annual meeting in Jakarta on July 24, stated in a joint statement that they would continue to coordinate their efforts with the permanent five and the U.N. Secretary-General in the search for a comprehensive political solution to the Cambodian problem.

P.M.'s Soviet Visit

Prime Minister V.P. Singh, accompanied by a large delegation, paid a fruitful four-day visit to the Soviet Union (July 23-26) and held wide-ranging talks with President Gorbachov and other leaders.

The leaders not only reaffirmed the two countries' traditional ties of friendship but also agreed to readjust their economic and trade relations in the light of the dramatic changes taking place in the world at present and likely to take place in the years to come. They agreed to extend the 1971 Treaty of Friendship when its 20-year term expires next year. Both countries have reaffirmed their commitment to maintain the dynamism that has been a feature of their relations during the last three decades and more.

A joint statement issued from Moscow indicated a shared perspective on most of the world issues they discussed. The Soviet Union will continue the soft-term loans for joint ventures, as in the past. A Memorandum of Understanding was signed to this effect; it also covered scientific and technical cooperation. The Inter-governmental Joint Commission confirmed the stand taken during the recent months.

On the Kashmir issue the Soviet Union affirmed its stand and agreed that the issue should not be internationalised as it would complicate the situation. The Soviet Prime Minister removed the apprehensions of a change in the Kremlin's stand following the detente and the changed international situation.

Both countries have different

standpoints on the nuclear treaty issue, but they stand by their policies. They called upon all States to join in the efforts begun by the USA and the Soviet Union for reducing the arsenals of nuclear and other horror weapons. They singled out racial and religious extremism and the resultant violence as a threat to democracy. Both India and the Soviet Union are multi-ethnic States.

Nuclear-free world: Prime Minister V.P. Singh and President Gorbachov, in a joint statement, called for the establishment of a new structure of international economic relations based on the principles of justice and equal rights. The leaders reiterated the two countries' commitment to building a nuclear weapon-free and non-violent world as envisaged in the Delhi Declaration.

Referring to Mr Gorbachov's concept of a common European home, the two leaders noted that this would have its implications for the rest of the world. "Europe can be secure only when all other regions of our planet are also secure", they stressed.

On Asia, it was felt "positive trends are emerging" and the countries of the region were seeking to attain new levels in their relations to achieve progress and prosperity. They noted that democratic temper was gaining ground in the world. At the national level, people were asserting their human rights and fundamental freedom. However, they said "democracy is being threatened by the growth of racial and religious extremism, violence, terrorism and other forms of hatred".

"We cannot afford to waste our energies in nurturing old antagonisms", Mr V.P. said, while speaking at a banquet. On Indo-Soviet friendship, he said the ties nurtured by consistent efforts of both the countries through frequent high-level exchanges had developed and diversified rapidly over the past four decades.

The Soviet Union had stood steadfastly by India at critical times. Friendship with the people of the Soviet Union is in fact a part of the psyche of every Indian. There is hope that the last decade of this century would mark the beginning of a new era

that would be safer, more humane, more prosperous and more just.

Mr Gorbachov pledged to give a fresh momentum to Indo-Soviet relations by evolving a mechanism for closer cooperation on economic issues in 1990-95. Both leaders advocated greater cooperation among the Soviet Union, China and India in the interest of global peace.

Iraq's Invasion of Kuwait

The Middle East, which had remained largely free of armed clashes for many months since the end of the Iraq-Iran war, was again the scene of a war. On August 2 Iraqi forces suddenly invaded the tiny city State of Kuwait, accusing it of grabbing Iraqi "land and money". The invaders seized the seat of power and occupied the whole of Kuwait.

The aggression caused some bloodshed (200 killed) and led to many protests by the international community. Most of the West Asian countries also condemned the action.

The UN Security Council, in an emergency session, unanimously condemned the aggression and asked Iraq to withdraw its forces from Kuwait territory.

The reconciliation talks between the spokesmen of the two countries in a bid to settle their dispute over oil, borders and money, collapsed on August 1 despite the intense behind-the-scenes efforts by Saudi Arabia which had arranged the meeting at Jiddah. Iraq maintained a hard line throughout the negotiations.

The fate of the Kuwait ruler, Sheikh Jaber-al-Ahmed-al Sabah, was not yet known.

The Iraqi spokesman informed the U.N. Council that his country would vacate Kuwait within a few days as soon as the situation stabilised. Both Iraq and Kuwait are non-aligned countries.

Apartheid by "Blacks"

Ironically, while the obnoxious system of apartheid in South Africa—discrimination by whites against the blacks—is on the way out—the system has emerged in Fiji, whose new Consti-

tution, promulgated (on July 25 this year) is racist in tone and undemocratic in content. The people directly affected are people of Indian origin who form a substantial part of the population and who are being gradually squeezed out of the country by its new rulers. The Australian Foreign Minister, who conferred with Mr I.K. Gujral, his Indian counterpart, in Delhi on August 1, asserted that any constitutional framework which perpetuates racial divisions and undemocratic principles and ignores the majority concept, would be counter-productive. India and Australia have agreed to work in cooperation to persuade the regime in Fiji to accept a more equitable arrangement for sharing political power and governance of the country.

Racism, whether white or black, is admittedly a slur on civilisation. The coup staged by Maj-Gen Rabuka in May, 1987, was in effect a blatant and naked act of racism directed against Fijians of Indian origin. The new constitution of Fiji, adopted by the military-dominated regime, has virtually institutionalised apartheid. Maj-Gen Rabuka, the brain behind it, has not suffered in any way for the faulty set-up he devised and still heads.

Benazir Government

Dismissed

A promising spell of democracy in a highly conservative Pakistan was suddenly, and perhaps unjustifiably, brought to an end on August 6 when President Ghulam Ishaq Khan dismissed the Benazir Bhutto Government, dissolved the National Assembly and appointed Mr G.M. Jatoi as the interim Prime Minister. Elections have been promised on October 24 and full use is being made of the army which has taken over the TV station and key installations all over Pakistan. Four Ministers were also sworn in.

The reasons given by the Pakistan President for this drastic action are the prevalence of graft and the ineptitude of the Government. The administration, the President said, "wilfully undermined and impaired the functioning of the Constitution." Corruption had reached such proportions that the Government cannot carry out the Cons-

titution.

Ms Benazir Bhutto and her colleagues described the action as total high-handedness and unconstitutional. They intend to challenge it in the courts. The opposition parties had announced their intention to move a no-confidence motion against Benazir Bhutto in the National Assembly which was to meet soon. While there is no doubt that the Benazir regime was not effective and there was widespread opposition to her, especially in Punjab which the PPP could not control, the democratic norms required that she should have been asked to seek a fresh vote of confidence in the Assembly. Her combination of ruling groups was however highly vulnerable, nor were her relations with the President happy. The President's action seems to be arbitrary and smacks of both revenge and punishment for her lapses.

Islamic Conference Toes

Pak Line

After prolonged efforts and a propaganda blitz, Pakistan succeeded at last in persuading the Organisation of Islamic Countries (OIC) Foreign Ministers who held a conference in Cairo on August 5, to pass a resolution, drafted by Islamabad envoys, urging India and Pakistan to settle the Kashmir "dispute" through bilateral negotiations in accordance with the U.N. resolution and the Simla Agreement.

Pakistan is naturally happy that it has scored a point, while the Government of India feels disappointed that its efforts to impress upon the Islamic Conference the reality—that Kashmir is an internal affair of India and Pakistan has been interfering in Indian affairs and deliberately creating trouble in the Valley.

Most of the Islamic countries have throughout displayed a prejudice against India and backed Pakistan. In fact, on past occasions the Islamic Ministers' Conference meted out humiliating treatment to Indian emissaries.

Bid to Islamise J-K issue: Pakistan again mounted a vigorous effort to "Islamise" the Kashmir issue and win Arab support. In a letter sent to

Foreign Ministers of all 46 member-States of the Islamic Conference Organisation, the Pakistani Foreign Minister, Sahabzada Yaqub Khan, called for a concerted "Islamic action" to protect the "Islamic character of Kashmir". He claimed that "Kashmir is not only a political problem between Pakistan and India but also an Islamic cause which needs urgent help and cooperation of all Muslims in the world".

The letter traced the history of Kashmir (from the Pakistani angle) and portrays the militants in Kashmir as "Mujahideen" and their secessionist campaign as Intifada or Jihad (holy war). It is backed by a spate of articles and letters to editors in various newspapers by Pakistani embassy officials.

One such article, published in an Arabic daily under the caption "12 million Muslims in Kashmir are subjected to fierce Hindu attack to root out the Muslim existence", alleges rampant killing of Muslims and rape of Muslim women and accuses "Hindu imperialists" of "altering Islamic educational curriculum with one that contains old idolatrous Hindu history legend and the philosophy of the unity of false religions". Another article by an unnamed author alleges that Urdu and Kashmiri languages "are being deprived of Arabic words in order to cut their links with the Islamic world".

Morocco has opposed internationalisation of the Kashmir issue and urged India and Pakistan to resolve their differences bilaterally through peaceful negotiations. King Hassan of Morocco conveyed this to Mufti Mohammad Sayeed who visited Northern Africa as the special envoy of the Prime Minister. Mufti Sayeed explained to the King how Pakistan was interfering in Kashmir and Punjab by financing, training and arming terrorists.

U.S.-Soviet Deal on Afghanistan

Although no official announcement of a concrete understanding has been made, reports from American sources indicate that Soviet Foreign Minister Mr Shevardnadze and U.S. Secretary of State James Baker reached

an agreement on the Afghanistan problem at their talks held on August 2.

The main points of the U.S.-Soviet deal are: (a) the Soviets will stop further supplies of arms to the Afghan Government and the U.S. to the guerrillas (Mujahideen). (b) There will be an interim government arrangement under which Afghan President Najibullah will play a role along with the leaders of the guerrilla groups. (c) The future government will be chosen through elections to be supervised by independent agencies.

The details of the deal have yet to be worked out, but the understanding does indicate that the complex problem of Afghanistan may soon be settled to mutual satisfaction.

Earlier, the Democratic Party of Afghanistan (PDPA) made it clear that it did not intend to step down before a settlement was reached or an election held.

At the Super-Power summit in Washington both sides were believed to have agreed to cut off arms supplies to their proteges in the Afghan civil war. But Moscow and Washington have lost so much influence over the warring parties in Afghanistan that a peace settlement might be impossible to implement.

Soviet and U.S. officials have had three rounds of intensive expert talks on Afghanistan since March. What they have done now is to reach an agreement on an arms cut-off or "negative symmetry" to the Afghan Mujahideen and the Najibullah regime. This accord could be put into effect by October. The Super Powers are also in virtual agreement on the terms of a wider peace package, which includes a cease-fire, the formation of an interim government to hold elections, an expanded role for the U.N. and the Organisation of the Islamic Conference to supervise elections, and a regional conference to persuade Pakistan, Iran and Saudi Arabia to stop financing Mujahideen groups. However, the future role of Mr Najibullah remains a stumbling block.

"The Soviets and the US are no longer masters of people and events in Afghanistan. Our influence in Kabul

has declined considerably and Najibullah has much more liberty to manoeuvre than ever before", said Professor Yuri Gankovsky, head of the Afghan Research Unit at the Oriental Institute in Moscow.

U.S. Role in Nepal Affairs

All evidence points to a greater role by the U.S. in Nepal's affairs. The design seems to be to establish another pocket of American influence to keep the Soviet Union out. The subtle manoeuvre is well timed; Mr Gorbachov is a sorely troubled person these days because of the internal challenges to his authority and the decline of the Communist Party. During the pro-democracy campaign it was the U.S. pressure that prompted the King's climbdown.

Recently, the World Hindu Federation in Kathmandu protested against a U.S. Congress resolution asking Nepal that its guarantee of freedom of religion to the Nepalese citizens should "include the freedom to change one's religion or belief and the freedom, in public or private, to manifest one's religious belief in teaching, practice, worship and observance".

The federation, in a note to the U.S. President, accused the Congress of interfering in the internal affairs of Nepal and, by implication, threatening the interim government that unless these changes were brought about, the US would cut down its aid.

The Hindu leaders are also upset over the reports that the new Nepal constitution, now under preparation, might declare Nepal a secular nation. They are planning to submit a memorandum signed by about two million people demanding that no change be made in the concept of a "Hindu Rashtra" and warning that, should the concept be meddled with, it would bring incalculable harm to the country.

Hindus form 90 per cent of the population. The present Nepalese constitution guarantees the freedom of religion but it strictly bars conversions. The other major tenets are that Nepal will be a "Hindu kingdom" to be ruled by a Hindu King.

ECONOMIC SCENE

DEVELOPMENT AND ENVIRONMENT

Q. Can economic growth and environmental protection go together? Discuss with an illustration.

Ans. The question posed here may be put differently as: Can economic development and protection of environment be considered in isolation of each other? If the answer is in the affirmative, which should come first: environmental protection or economic development?

The linkages between the development of an economy and the environment (in the broadest sense) have been recognised in the recent past. The development organisations and the international credit institutions are stressing both environmental protection and poverty reduction as their goals for the 1990s, although the two are mutually contradictory. Long-term environmental protection are in direct conflict with short-term survival strategies of the poor. Techniques to prevent soil erosion involving long gestation will be tried only when the farmer's income increases. Developing countries balk at costly anti-pollution measures which require diversion of huge resources. Both development and environmental protection are critical to long-term economic growth but policies adopted to redress one problem can exacerbate the other.

It has been well said that "poverty is the greatest pollutant in the world. Schemes of storage and long-distance transfer of water (as in the case of big dams like the Bhakra dam, Sardar Sarovar project, Narmada dam) should be looked upon as promoters of environment in the larger sense".

The interaction between the economy and environment can best be illustrated by Sardar Sarovar Project (SSP).

The World Bank says in unequivocal

terms that the benefits from the Project outweigh the costs of immediate human and environmental disruption. Without the dam the long-term costs to the people and also the environmental costs will be greater because of the economic stagnation.

The Narmada river Project in Gujarat has great economic potential. It can provide irrigation to this water-short State to grow enough foodgrains for 20 to 25 million population; employment to one million; and electric power to run the pumpsets. The ratio of beneficiaries to affected people will be more than 200 : 1.

The project will create substantial agricultural growth in areas where agriculture is the strongest. It will have the most impact on absolute poverty.

Since the scope for acreage expansion in India is limited, productivity will have to be stepped up to achieve higher output, for meeting the escalating demand of the population in the decades to come. The increased water supply required could not be provided without the dam.

The dam would also supply domestic water to the villages and towns. This cost, on an average, \$ 160 million per year during 1985 to 1989. A scenario of increasing hardship is ahead. The dam will be a boon to the State.

As to the controversy of big vs. small dams, the World Bank says that the small dams cannot yield the same scale of benefits as the large one. They are useful but not substitutes.

It is argued that groundwater sources may be tapped to meet the demand for additional water for irrigation. In the first instance, the groundwater sources are not bountiful considering the long-term demand for water. Secondly, even with both major and minor irrigation we can provide only two-thirds of our water requirement. Thus ground water is a complementary source of water supply for agricul-

ture.

It is true that the SSP has positive, negative and neutral impacts.

ADB AND INDIA

Q. Write a short note on Asia Development Bank's role in promoting economic development with special reference to India.

Ans. The Asian Development Bank (ADB) is an international development finance institution owned by 49 member countries—34 countries from the Asia-Pacific region and 15 countries from Europe and North America. It started functioning twenty three years ago in December 1966.

As a catalyst in promoting the development of the most populous and fastest growing region in the world, its principal functions are to advance loans and equity investment for the economic and social advancement of the developing member countries; to provide technical assistance; to promote investment of public and private capital for development purposes; and to help in coordinating development policies and plans of member countries. The Bank is to promote not only development of the region but also make for harmonious growth of the sub-regions.

Loans to developed member countries are advanced from Ordinary Capital resources. These constitute nearly 67 per cent of the Bank loans. The interest rate charged on the loans is variable and the period for repayment is the grace period of five years.

Out of the aggregate loan amounting to \$ 14,908.093 million committed from this source as on March 31, 1990, India's share stood at \$ 1,773.5 million or 9.14 per cent.

To the poor member countries loans are given from the Asian Development Fund (ADF) on concessional terms: normally interest free, one per

cent service charges and 30 years repayment period with a grace period of 10 years.

For the first time ever, India sought for a loan from the ADF. Earlier she borrowed 1,773.5 million dollar during the period from 1986 till end-April 1990 from the Ordinary Capital source.

The Bank offers specifically assistance to the private sector. Some Indian industries have received loans/equity capital and assistance for others is in the pipeline. The Bank assistance is also available for privatization of the public sector enterprises.

A word now about the ADF. The question of concessional loan was high on the agenda of the ADB Annual meeting at New Delhi. But it has been shelved for at least one year. The suggestion of a replenishment fund of 10.2 billion dollar was rejected, thanks to the "American intransigence, Japanese acquiescence". This caused Indian irritation and Chinese fury. India's hope for entitlement to a share of the proposed replenishment for ADF-VI was dashed. The US stand that negotiations for the replenishment of the Fund should wait till the availability of adequate funds was a lame excuse. So also was the plea that the ADB should reorient its lending programmes emphasising quality and not quantity of loans.

The US negative stand on fund-raising for the ADF-VI and the Japanese consent is believed to be politically motivated. As a result, the issue has been put into the cold storage for at least one year, which implies that India will not be able to have access to soft loans for three years because it takes a long time to process the loan disbursement even after its authorisation. The agreement reached at the Annual meeting to meet soon is a barmecide's feast.

INFLATION—BARRIER TO RURAL EMPLOYMENT

Q. Inflation has, over the years, impeded rural employment. Explain.

Ans. The policy to combat the

growing rural unemployment in the country has been to launch specific employment-generation schemes such as Food For Work Programme merged into National Rural Employment Programme; Rural Landless Employees Guarantee Programme; Jawahar Rozgar Yojana (into which have been merged the NREP and RLEGP); and IRDP. These schemes were funded by making budgetary allocations. With budget deficits as a continuing feature of the Centre, recourse is often taken to deficit financing to plug the gap. The result is deficit-induced inflation.

As the prices rise, the budgetary deficits also increase. That is, the public expenditure outruns the revenue receipts. A vicious circle—high prices leading to deficits leading to higher prices—is established. To break this circle, the fiscal imbalance needs to be corrected through deflationary measures, that is by effecting savings on the non-plan front rather than by mobilising resources from the Reserve Bank of India or created money.

The record of the last two decades shows that when deflation is initiated, the rural employment and welfare schemes have to bear the burden of adjustment. This was seen most starkly between 1974-75 and 1976-77 and in 1980-81 and 1982-83. In the 1974-75 budget, presented in the midst of "acute inflationary pressures" the grants for the Central plan schemes (which were used for employment expansion in the rural areas) were cut to Rs 69 crore from Rs 237 crore in 1973-74, that is by Rs 168 crore.

The economy now is highly "leveraged" by the large burden of internal and external debt. The National Front government has expressed its resolve not only to avoid further aggravation of budgetary deficits but also to reduce them and also the debts. At the same time, it has taken certain steps which are bound to escalate non-plan expenditure, e.g., higher procurement prices for various crops which means more subsidy; rural debt relief (estimated to cost Rs 2800 crore); increased defence expenditure etc.

It has of course given directives to all Union ministries to adopt austerity measures. It is premature to predict the outcome at this moment. However, a

consciousness for economy is bound to be generated in the wake of the austerity package. The apprehension is that this over-zeal to reduce deficit financing may not lead to retarded growth which according to some experts will be suicidal.

In the process of economising the resources, the welfare schemes—poverty-alleviation/employment programmes—may be the first casualty unless proper discrimination is exercised in preparing the menu of plans which can be financed from the savings accruing from the economy measures envisaged.

An important lesson from this is that inflation in itself is not bad. Only it should be kept within reasonable limits. By so doing, the country can pursue a reasonable growth path. What is more, efforts need to be directed to make an efficient use of the means of production and thereby to reduce the cost and hence the prices of the products. Unfortunately, this aspect has not received the attention which it deserves. Instead, effort is made to rope in more resources, and they remain under-utilized.

Tailpiece: Sick units in the public or private sector should be handed over to business houses that are willing to take them over or manage them. Or they may be cautioned. Unviable sick units should be allowed to be closed down and the retrenched workers re-trained and re-deployed. This view has been expressed by the veteran industrialist Rama Krishan Bajaj in an interview to a leading newspaper daily. The National Front government high-ups have also aired similar views but the implementation is very difficult and calls for political will. It goes without saying however that procrastination in the matter will only complicate the solution.

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Prosperity Through Environment

"The clarion call of the environmentalist is ensuring the prosperity of future generations besides the present" was one of the topics set in the Essay paper for the Reserve Bank of India Staff Officers' (Grade A) Examination held in 1990.

Protection of the environment in all its forms has received much public attention in recent months at domestic and international forums. The question is by no means new but it has acquired much greater urgency than ever before because of the ceaseless pollution of the atmosphere, the reckless destruction of the multi-faceted gifts of Nature by thoughtless human beings. Among the offenders are people who are, or should be, aware of the folly of their deeds and the irreparable damage they are doing to the safety and prosperity of mankind, the present and the future generations. Hence the environmentalists' clarion call.

Human existence depends upon the environment. Realisation of this fact has at last dawned on humanity. Few persons would now question the statement that we have been poisoning or destroying valuable resources on earth (including water) and also in the air—all in the name of economic development. In fact, development, expansion and growth are the key slogans in the modern world; nothing else seems to matter. Senseless poisoning is proceeding with unbelievable speed. While genocide rightly receives severe condemnation, "ecoside"—ruthless murder of the environment—has only recently become a cognisable offence.

After all, it is the biosphere, that is, the air and water encasing the earth, besides the green cover and the wildlife, that sustain life on this planet. In chemical terms, it is the mixture and fine balance of oxygen, nitrogen, carbon dioxide and water vapour that is vital for life. These are operated and maintained by multiple biological processes. For centuries man took for granted that the bounties of Nature were inexhaustible

and that the resources get renewed automatically. Both these assumptions have lately been proved wrong.

The struggle now is for adequate renewal of such resources as man has to use every day, and also for preservation and protection of as many resources as possible. Attempts are being made to check the reckless destruction of precious environment. Scientists have warned that mankind might have to return to the much-dreaded "ice age" if the reckless destruction of trees, other greenery and natural resources continues at the pace associated with "modern" progress, especially in industry.

A look-back in this regard would be helpful. Oddly enough, it was only in 1972 that the first systematic international effort was made to take stock of the situation and plan adequate steps to counter the process of destruction. The step was the UN Conference on Environment held in Sweden. The conference was poorly attended, for political and other reasons. Then came the UN Habitat Conference on Human Settlements in 1975 in Vancouver and the UN Desertification Conference in Nairobi in 1977 to check the ruinous growth of deserts.

But in many ways the year 1990 marked a specific advance in the programmes for saving mankind from disaster. The occasion marked recognition of the basic fact that the environmentalists are fighting for the concept of sustainable progress with the belief that environment and development are not opposite poles. In this connection, the observation of the Brundtland Commission (in its report published in 1987) was recalled. The commission said: "Economy is not just about the production of wealth, and ecology is not just about the protection of Nature; they are both equally relevant for improving the lot of mankind."

The Montreal Protocol has been very much in the news this year (1990). The aim of the Protocol is to save the

precious ozone layer from chemical damage. Sixty countries have so far signed the Protocol. India and China have not yet done so. But all enlightened countries now concede that destruction of the ozone layer will have serious consequences on human, animal and plant life.

At their last meeting in Malaysia in October, 1989, Commonwealth Heads of Government adopted the Langkawi Declaration on Environment containing a Programme of Action, to counter the several global environment threats. This year the World Bank President made a proposal to set up an International Environment Fund, but the US opposed it. On June 17 this year the US, in a dramatic reversal of stand, announced the withdrawal of its earlier objection and indicated that it would itself propose a fund operated and administered by the World Bank, to enable the less developed countries phase out CFC production (Chlorofluorocarbons) by the year 2000 in a non-precedential framework. The US President, who won the election mainly on environment issues, laid down three essential criteria for such a fund: first, adequate scientific evidence of the causes and effects (in this case ozone depletion); second, there is strong evidence that the steps to be taken under the amended Protocol will be able to tackle the problem successfully; and third, the resources needed for this purpose are reasonable and predictable.

At the first International Environment Conference held in London early in July and attended by Environment Ministers from over 100 countries, specific proposals were made to tighten the Montreal Protocol. Britain made a commitment to contribute 9 million dollars, to begin with, for the Action Plan to halt the depletion of ozone. Mrs Thatcher, whose environmental problems are increasing, even pleaded for extension of the Protocol to cover other harmful substances which also cause similar damage. She sought higher

targets and shorter deadlines for reducing and eventually eliminating CFCs and halons.

There is no denying that the major culprits in causing pollution and damaging the ozone layer are the developed countries. These countries have benefited all through the years by using cheap CFCs and have harmed the global environment. If they want the developing countries to restrain themselves from following the same course, they should assist them. Though the developing countries produce only a small proportion of the world output of CFCs, they require massive assistance to switch over to new technologies and to less harmful substitutes. Therefore, a large fund is needed.

A spokesman of the Greenpeace Movement warned however that even the second attempt to make the Protocol really effective will not, in its present form, succeed in protecting the layer. According to him, the hole in the Antarctic ozone layer will continue to increase and another hole might appear over the Arctic; thus the global ozone depletion will continue to occur, with unforeseeable consequences for the health of the planet and all life on it. This is indeed a dismal concept; if it turns out to be well founded the consequences would be unimaginable for advanced, developing and of course the poor countries. The well-being and prosperity of the present and the future generations would be endangered, possibly beyond repair.

The question is often asked why India has not signed the Montreal Protocol, even though this country fully shares the views of the environmentalists. India's stand, as clearly defined by the Minister of State for Environment, Mrs Maneka Gandhi, at the London Conference, is that the country would prefer to wait for (a) an adequate fund to help the developing countries and (b) assurances to them of early transfer of technology which would facilitate a switchover from the existing harmful chemicals. India, like other developing countries, is certainly interested in protecting the global environment but because of other, more urgent problems, our priorities cannot be the same as those of the prosperous developed countries.

The Montreal Protocol prescribes targets for phasing out of chlorofluorocarbons, the chemical used for refrigeration and packing industries. These chemicals deplete the ozone layer which in turn permits an increase in damaging ultra violet radiation to reach the earth's surface. The pace of phasing out, as envisaged in the Protocol is too slow; besides, several Third World countries had not signed the accord.

A notable development at the London Conference was a change in the attitude of India and China, which feel that since the rich countries had softened their stand and had agreed to contribute to the new Ozone Fund, a more favourable climate had been created for signing the accord. So it will be only a matter of time before India signifies its willingness to sign the accord. India has welcomed acceptance even though partial, of the "polluter pays" principle for which it had been pleading for many months.

For a change, as it were, India's forceful presentation of the developing countries' case has achieved the aim and has not been brushed aside. "If you continue to clutch your patents to your chest", she told the London Conference, "you may not have a world you need patents for...we do not have 200 years to catch up. May be you should give us some of the knowledge now." The fact is that several Western industrial firms have succeeded in developing CFC substitutes which are ozone-friendly, but these firms are unwilling to pass on the knowledge and the technologies to the developing countries. Another heart-breaking fact is that, despite international pledges to phase out the CFCs, the damage to the northern hemisphere's ozone layer is likely to touch record levels in the next 50 years. This lends urgency to the situation, and on a speedy handling of the problem hinges the prosperity of mankind now as well as in the coming decades.

The Government of India's growing concern over this problem is obvious from the establishment of a department and Ministry for Environment and the series of laws passed to check the practices that endanger the environment. Among these are: The Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution)

Act, 1981, the Water (Pollution and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974, the Environment (Protection) Act, May 1986, the Forests (Conservation) Act, 1980, the Wildlife Protection Act, 1972, which has been frequently amended to make it more effective. Besides, there is a full-fledged national forest policy, several programmes and projects to conserve the environment and check the destructive practices.

There have been many social conflicts over the issue of natural resources in India. The controversies over the Sardar Sarovar Dam and the Narmada Project are among the outstanding examples. Competing claims and inter-State disputes over water and forests are quite common. As in the case of land disputes, the controversies over the natural resources involve vested interests. There are, in many cases, unequal antagonists; several agrarian conflicts have ecological roots. The grave consequences of some of the dam construction projects have been highlighted by the numerous agitations carried on by voluntary agencies and courageous individuals. The Chipko movement started by the brave Sunderlal Bahugana to save the Garhwal forests won well-deserved international recognition.

The social good has to be weighed against individual benefit and a rational balance needs to be struck. The writing on the wall is clear. If the present generation fails to preserve and protect Nature's bounty, the coming generations will hold us guilty of betraying an invaluable trust. But in their excessive zeal the environmentalists ignore a vital aspect. India needs more foodgrains, more water, more electricity, more industries for manufacturing and finishing goods for domestic consumption and exports—all for the social good.

Dams over rivers and construction of large power houses to harness energy sources enable the economy to flourish. These amenities can be made available only by sacrificing some of the greenery. If the building of large dams is to be halted in response to the environmentalists' agitations, where are the additional foodgrains, irrigation facilities and uninterrupted power for industry to come from?

"Terrorism: Trends, Tactics and Traumas"

Terrorism fuelled by ideology, like the Red Brigades in Italy and Japan, the Baader-Mein gang in Germany and the CCA in Belgium had a smaller clientele and was easier to deal with than separatists and secessionists who were emotional and had a mass base. Sometimes the cadres, calling themselves "freedom fighters", did not know anything about the cause and its implications like the Asala movement for an independent Armenia that targets the Turks for attacks. By and large, such elements, whether weakening or wrecking the system at home or abroad, are filled with emotion and have no difficulty in replacing their losses. "Separatism arises only after months and years of unnoticed alienation", is one of the key factors that has given rise to this hydra-headed monster, whose trends, tactics and traumas are spreading fast their tentacles in the most horrendous forms: kidnappings, hijacking of planes, keeping innocent persons as hostages, choosing soft targets for indiscriminate killing, resorting to mayhem at religious or social gatherings, desecrating places of worship *et al*, with the sole purpose of creating bad blood between communities and terror among law abiding citizens. Of course, dealing with extremism or terrorism is no easy matter, almost always the choice is between two evils; it is quite hard to decide which is the lesser one, and no government dealing with ultras can afford to be predictable in its response.

Twentieth century stands out in history as a mute witness to the two Global Wars, followed by a long and suspicious period of Cold War between the Super-Powers and their allies. Whereas the enemies both in hot and cold wars are easily identifiable, the villain of the war by proxy—the one aiding and abetting the fires of terrorism, subversion, and sabotage in other countries—is canny enough to escape

direct retaliation and retribution. And thus the world continues to suffer the sinister designs of those who are out to inflict agony and anguish through mindless and senseless terrorism on land, air and water.

A report "Patterns of Global Terrorism, 1989" designated six countries as State sponsors of terrorism: Cuba, Iran, Libya, North Korea, South Yemen and Syria. It charged that Iran was "probably involving itself with, if not organising terrorist operations of Hezbollah, the militant party of God, in Europe, West Africa and elsewhere". According to Brian Crozier an authority on "Growing International Terrorism"—terrorism, of a quite different sort from anything we have experienced in the past—has become a blight on society. It is 'transnational' in scope—that is, there is a kind of global brotherhood of terrorists who share basic beliefs and techniques, and who often give one another support in arms and training. They are usually well-educated men and women from middle-class families. But, perhaps the most disturbing thing about the new terrorism is that it is often directed against liberal, Western and Western-style democracies, in stark contrast to the past when revolutionaries attacked repressive societies such as Czarist Russia, the Austro-Hungarian Empire and France's *ancien regime*. Terrorist organisations cooperate by providing training and places of refuge for each other, as well as money, forged passports and arms. Like armies, terrorists have their bases, from where they operate, communicate and plan their strategies of provoking a break-down of society and government, so that they can take power.

Terrorism in its most heinous and inhuman form has been causing havoc in the States of Punjab and Kashmir valley for nearly a decade now. Despite regional as well as international resolu-

tions and conventions, such as "SAARC Convention on the Suppression of Terrorism" (Aug 1988), United Nations Resolution on Terrorism (Dec 1987), International Convention Against the Taking of Hostages (Dec. 1979), Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts against the Safety of Civil Aviation (Sep 1971) and the Convention for the Suppression of the Unlawful Seizure of Aircraft (Dec 1970), Pakistan has been stoking the fire in Kashmir by training, arming and funding the terrorists and by arousing the most virulent religious frenzy. In Punjab also, in a very surreptitious and clandestine manner, violating all international and bi-lateral obligations, it has aided, abetted and encouraged the promoters of terror, secession, mayhem and massive infusion of arms and narcotics. With everyday passing, the trends of terrorism are getting more and more ominous. Yesterdays criminals, smugglers, drug-traffickers, anti-social elements and religious fundamentalists have joined the ranks of militants-cum-terrorists and with no-holds-barred, they are determined to hold the entire society and its values to ransom. The tactics employed by them would put to shame every conceivable act of cruelty that might have been committed in the past. Mass and indiscriminate killings in buses, trains, market places; planting of bombs at public places; and misuse and sacrilege of religious places are some of the terrible tactics which are being frequently made use of by the subversives-cum-terrorists. Since every action has an equal and opposite reaction, the traumas caused by widespread acts of terrorism are all-pervasive fear, panic migration of people from vulnerable villages to cities and towns, strain on economy, a near halt to developmental process, flight of capital out of the State and an ever-increasing number of widows, orphans and destitutes.

Autonomy for Doordarshan and AIR Genuine or Fake?

Grant of autonomy to Doordarshan and All India Radio and establishment of a corporation to manage these two electronic media was one of the electoral commitments of the Janata Dal and the other parties constituting the National Front. The Prasar Bharati Bill, designed to achieve this widely accepted aim, has however become highly controversial because of the conflicting views on the powers of the proposed corporation and the extent of Government control. The Bill is a pale shadow of the originally intended measure. Evidently, the political parties in power have had second thoughts on relaxing official control over the media.

This Special Feature presents the background of the issue, analyses the various aspects and discusses the probable shape of TV and AIR in the years to come.

I. Introduction

The Union Government proposes to set up a single autonomous corporation, known as the Prasar Bharati (Broadcasting Corporation of India), with two distinct wings—television (Doordarshan) and radio—to ensure its working in a fair, objective and creative manner. The Bill, introduced on December 29, 1989, is in fulfilment of the National Front's manifesto to confer autonomy on Doordarshan and Akashvani. The corporation will have a 10-member Board of Governors with four full-time members and an 11-member Broadcasting Council. The Council will monitor the working of the Corporation and hear complaints.

Under the Bill, the Government will have the right to make rules for the Corporation's functioning and remove, or suspend, the Governors after reference to the Supreme Court. The annual accounts of the Corporation will be

certified by the Comptroller and Auditor-General and presented to the Central Government for laying them before Parliament. The intention is that the Corporation should function as a genuinely autonomous body, innovative, dynamic and flexible, with a high degree of credibility.

The proposed structure takes into account the need for ensuring that radio and television, which belong to two distinct cultures, are enabled to evolve and grow while ensuring a commonality in overall approach. The detailed objectives set down for the Corporation include the upholding of both "the unity and integrity of the country" as well as "the democratic and social values enshrined in the Constitution".

The Prasar Bharati is also to look after the safeguarding of the citizen's right to be informed freely, truthfully and objectively, helping the upliftment of women, combating exploitation, inequality and untouchability, advancing the welfare of weaker sections, safeguarding the rights of the working classes and advancing their welfare and protecting the interests of children, the blind, the aged, the handicapped and other vulnerable sections.

The tasks set before the Corporation are laudable; what needs to be examined is whether the proposed structure will be able to fulfil them. The Bill provides for the Corporation to be administered by a Board of Governors comprising a Chairman, one Executive Governor, one Governor (Personnel), one Governor (Finance), six part-time Governors and one representative of the Information and Broadcasting ministry.

The qualifications laid down for appointment as Governors are: special knowledge of administration, journalism, etc, in the case of the Executive Governor, special knowledge or practical experience in personnel manage-

ment for the Governor (Personnel). Special knowledge or practical experience in financial matters is required for the Governor (Finance). The other Governors do not need any special knowledge or practical experience. All that is required is that they be "persons of eminence in public life". The Bill provides for recruitment boards to select staff for the Corporation. However, it desists from specifying the qualifications of those who are to man such boards, mentioning merely that these would be prescribed at a later date.

The Bill also provides for the setting up of a Broadcasting Council to receive and consider complaints concerning the Corporation and to "advise it in the discharge of its functions". The President of the Council and its members will all be appointed by the President of India "from among persons of eminence in public life"—again an omnibus definition that can cover almost anyone that the Government of the day regards as "convenient". It will also receive complaints from any person claiming to have been treated unjustly or unfairly, including unwarranted invasion of privacy, misrepresentation, distortion or lack of objectivity. The Corporation will manage, on behalf of the Central Government, the media's external services. The Central Government may issue to the Corporation directions necessary in the interest of the security of the State or preservation of public order.

II. The Background

Several concrete attempts were made during the past two decades to rectify the flaws in the existing set-up for the two mass media. Most of them proved fruitless exercises, but the reports of the committees and commissions which assessed the problem provide useful material.

In 1969 the Chanda Committee

recommended an independent public corporation for Akashvani and Doordarshan to liberate them from rigid bureaucratic procedures. This report was discussed in Parliament in April, 1970. The Government took the stand that the time was not ripe for transformation of A.I.R. into an independent and autonomous corporation.

The Verghese Committee, which was appointed in 1977 and submitted its report on February 24, 1978, was troubled by the partisan use of the media during the Emergency. One of the campaign promises of the Janata Party was autonomy to AIR and Doordarshan. When it came to power, the Janata Government constituted a working group under the chairmanship of Mr B.G. Verghese to prepare a plan for reorganising Akashvani and Doordarshan. The committee recommended that an independent and autonomous trust, "Akash Bharati", be set up to control the activities of both Akashvani and Doordarshan. It was to be in the hands of the professional elite and centralised on the pattern of broadcasting trusts in advanced industrial economies. All trustees (12 to 21) were to be appointed by the President of India. The Prime Minister would select a person from a panel of names recommended by a committee consisting of the Chief Justice of India, the Chairman of the Public Service Commission and the Lok Pal. The Verghese report was discussed in the Rajya Sabha on May 18, 1978, and in the Lok Sabha on November 30, 1978.

The Prasara Bharati Bill introduced in Parliament on May 16, 1979, by Mr L.K. Advani, the then Minister of Information and Broadcasting, departed from the Akash Bharati recommendations. It provided for a Board of Governors instead of trustees. The Secretaries of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting and of Finance were to be ex-officio members of the Board of Governors. The Comptroller and Auditor-General of India were to look after the financial side. The Government of India was empowered to issue directions to the Corporation, Prasara Bharati, whenever required. This Bill was, however, rejected by the Verghese committee. The Bill was to come up for discussion in July, 1979, but the Lok

Sabha was dissolved before the fixed date and the Bill lapsed.

In 1982, a Working Group on Software for Doordarshan was set up, headed by Dr P.C. Joshi, Director of the Institute for Economic Growth. In its report submitted on August 12, 1985, the Group sharply criticised Indian television for disseminating consumerist values rather than promoting genuine developmental values and orientation. This, according to the Group, was the result of a highly bureaucratised and hierarchically organised management structure of the media which was insensitive to social responsibility and alienated from Indian aesthetics.

The Working Group highlighted the Government's failure to formulate a policy on information and communication. It wanted the hierarchical, bureaucratised and standardised procedural routine of the media production system replaced by an organisation on the pattern of the Atomic Energy Commission and Space Research Centre, so that creativity and innovation might be encouraged.

III. Bitter Experience

The people, including viewers of TV and listeners of All India Radio Programmes, as well as the Press in this country have bitter memories of the Emergency years during which State control of the media was at its worst. In fact, the Congress(I) governments, including the preceding Rajiv Gandhi regime, became notorious for utilising television as a captive tool to distort facts, to prevent all criticism of the Government from being broadcast. It was manipulated to keep the public in the dark about news and views that were inconvenient to the Government. The citizens were thus deprived of their right to know and were fed with what the Government desired. The wide reach of television helped to promote a personality cult. AIR news bulletins were screened by high officials. Mrs Gandhi felt that the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting was not managing the press adequately.

The Shah Commission report and the White Paper on the misuse of mass media (August, 1977) exposed the ruthless manner in which the organs of

information were speedily subverted. "The then Prime Minister told a conference of Akashvani Station Directors in September, 1975, that she did not understand what the concept of credibility of radio implied since there was no doubt that Akashvani was, and was going to remain a Government organ."

As the Verghese report observed, Akashvani's approach to news has tended to be guarded and paternalistic. This tendency grew stronger over the years and Akashvani gradually came to be recognised and used as mouthpiece of the Government of the day. The broadcast media were openly seized and employed as official trumpets during the Emergency.

Both AIR and Doordarshan were blatantly misused by the Government headed by Mr Rajiv Gandhi whose close advisers issued all sorts of directives to the media. But the hopes and conceptions of these advisers were misplaced. They had the erroneous impression that out and out propaganda over the media would help the ruling party in the elections. If this had been the case, the Congress would not have lost the 1977 elections. Over-exposure of leaders or biased news-coverage in the Government's favour ultimately misfires and proves counter-productive.

1979 and 1989 Bills—A comparison: The National Front Government's going back on its earlier promises regarding autonomy to the media is not the first case of a climb-down. A look-back reveals that no less a person than Mr L.K. Advani, who was Union Minister for Information and Broadcasting in the Janata Government in 1977-1979, also performed a similar feat of reversal. The Verghese report contained a draft Bill called the "Akash Bharati Bill". The Janata Government introduced "The Prasara Bharati Bill" in the Lok Sabha on May 16, 1979. But this measure was a shadow of the Verghese Bill. Mr Advani justified the dilution on the ground that the Janata Government desired media autonomy while the Verghese Committee aimed at its independence.

The Verghese Bill and the 1979 Bill differed in regard to the power of appointment to the body which was to control the media, and the right of the

Government to give directions to the media. Both these were important issues. In the 1979 Bill the concept of independence of the electronic media was distinctly eroded. The structure envisaged by the 1979 Bill (which lapsed) guaranteed little freedom to the electronic media. Under it the media would have functioned no more freely than the so-called independent and autonomous financial institutions and statutory corporations.

Even so, the National Front Government's Bill is largely modelled on the 1979 draft. In one respect, however, it is an improvement. There is a new restriction on the power of the Government to give directions to the managing body.

IV. Faults in New Bill

There are several obvious faults in the National Front Government's Bill.

One, the hopes that the media would be made free from bureaucratic interference and control have been virtually dashed. TV and AIR will not have greater independence under the proposed structure.

Second, it does not offer any protection against a hostile administration's attempt to misuse its authority. The power of making appointments to the Board of Governors rests mainly with the Government. If it is autocratic and has inclinations (like the regimes of Mrs Indira Gandhi and later of Mr Rajiv Gandhi) to suppress freedom, it would be able to do so.

Third, there is no right, created or guaranteed, in favour of broadcasting dissenting, minority and opposite views.

Fourth, there are no provisions guaranteeing the financial independence of the electronic media.

Fifth, the Verghese Bill (unlike the present one) had a Statement of Objects and Reasons and also a charter guiding the proposed trust which would safeguard "the national interest and uphold the collective right of the Indian people to freedom of speech, expression and communication". The present Bill disregards this important aspect.

Freedom or Autonomy: Since

the concept of autonomy conveys different meanings to different people, perhaps it would be better to stress the basic need from the public standpoint. This is freedom to broadcast on the radio and project on the TV screen news and commentaries that are considered to be of public interest, without distortions of any kind. The implication is that there should be no Government or bureaucratic control on the media. For this purpose, it is necessary that TV should be like the free Press and function independently without fear or favour.

Our experience of autonomous corporations has been far from encouraging. So it would appear that a corporation may not provide an institutional frame which can guarantee freedom of the media. To have real freedom for the media, let us have a structure where the Government and the bureaucracy are outsiders, with a right to take action under the law only in cases of misuse, as in the case of the Press. There should be provision for enabling the people to seek redress from the courts whenever they feel they are being denied justice and fair play by the media.

There is always the fear that whatever the shape and form of management of the mass communication media, the Executive and the bureaucracy will pull the strings. In fact, the need to snap all links between the media and the bureaucracy can hardly be overemphasised.

As the Verghese Report commented, the essence of freedom of the Press lies in the existence of a competitive situation in the newspaper world. Many newspapers have very pronounced political, economic and cultural stands. Each newspaper pursues a different policy and each expresses itself freely. The reader has a wide choice and is able to draw his own conclusions. Listeners of Akashvani and Doordarshan's viewers have no such range of choice. Since a competitive broadcasting system is not yet possible in this country, some restraint on autonomy is inevitable. The Verghese Report had clearly stated that absolute autonomy is not conceivable in the context of national planning which we have accepted...It is therefore difficult to conceive of an autonomous broadcasting system which is totally

divorced from national development goals.

V. Second Thoughts on Autonomy

Different points of view on the question of autonomy of the media were expressed at a seminar on "Autonomy of Media and Government" held in New Delhi on April 28 this year. Former Karnataka Chief Minister and new Janata Dal President S.R. Bommai said clarity of objectives should be evolved before setting up an autonomous broadcasting organisation. It was necessary to have a long-term perspective while setting up a viable broadcasting system. The criticism that the Prasar Bharati Bill did not envisage adequate autonomy for a meaningful change in the functioning of the media should also be taken into account before deciding on the future set-up.

A discordant note was sounded by the former Director-General of Doordarshan, Mr P.C. Chatterji, who felt that the nation did not need autonomy at this stage; the concept would not work in the present political set-up when no party was ready to consider the other as neutral. The spirit behind the structure to be evolved was more important than the infrastructure itself. Regarding the Board of Directors provided for under the Prasar Bharati Bill, he suggested that there should be one Governor with technical background to advise the board on various issues.

According to another former Director General of Doordarshan, there was a belief that the elected Government had an inherent right to project its point of view through the official media. They must realise that this right was not superior to the right of the people to know and to be able to make judgements on the Government's actions.

The golden rule about a broadcasting organisation was not to have its own opinions. Its main business is to present different points of view in a manner that the listener or the viewer was assisted in forming his own opinion.

Dr B.S. Rao, Director of the National Institute of Rural Development, has urged that the people in rural and tribal areas should be given priority in

the coverage. A former producer in Doordarshan has expressed concern over the neglect of the professional cadre in Doordarshan. She said that they had never been given the freedom they deserved to work more affectively.

Autonomy—No Magic Wand:

Although the word "autonomy" has been used day in and day out, the fact must be faced that it is no magic wand that will promptly cure all the ills and remove all the flaws of Doordarshan and AIR, especially the bias and the distortions.

Walter Wriston, a Western media expert, recently pointed out, "TV by its nature makes possible and profitable for politicians to bypass traditional political structures." This thrust will not vanish after autonomy. It has also to be noted that the quality, speed and nature of information spread by the mass media has altered the relationship between the people and the Government.

Even though the demand for making the electronic mass media autonomous has been favoured by listeners and viewers who find the official and political interference disgusting, many professionals and knowledgeable people fear that this move may not achieve the objective in view.

The Programme Staff Association of AIR and Doordarshan feels that the Prasar Bharati Bill will fail to give autonomy to the electronic media as it seeks to tighten the bureaucratic stranglehold and keep out professional communicators. The framework envisages all powers in the hands of administrators, financial wizards and "personnel management experts".

The Association President expressed the view recently that while the Government's intention to give autonomy could not be doubted, "the responsibility of drafting the Bill was entrusted perhaps to those very persons who have consciously imposed shackles on the media". These people had been responsible for "smothering initiative, blunting creative and imaginative activity, as well as freedom of action through backseat driving from Shastri Bhavan". A former broadcaster feels that autonomy was lost over the years because of internal tensions

between engineers and programmers, between programme personnel and staff artists.

The Delhi Station Directors of AIR and Doordarshan felt that professional standards could fall under the new set-up as there was little scope for TV and radio journalism.

VI. Reversal of Policy

Step by step, under various pretexts which are far from convincing from the public standpoint, the Union Government has made compromises and watered down the original Prasar Bharati Bill. The draft measure, as it was presented to Parliament during its monsoon session, was substantially modified and is a pale shadow of the initial exposition of autonomy. The changes reflect nervousness in high quarters about the possible consequences of granting autonomy to the media. The policy reversal is patent, even the pretence has been wiped out and the reality is out at last.

Certain official amendments of the draft Bill have reduced the National Front's claim of genuine autonomy to a mockery. What the Government claimed to have given with one hand has been taken away with the other. The Bill has in fact become emaciated and has little vigour left. Apparently, no party in power is ready to forgo the advantages of control over the media.

The new clause 22 empowers Government to supersede the Board of Governors of the Corporation if they fail to give the information it seeks, or permits a broadcast on a public issue which the Government thinks is not in public interest. Such action can be taken under cover of serving the interests of "national security". There is also the failure to give the Corporation financial independence.

Other Parties' Reactions: The irony of the situation is that it is not the ruling Janata Dal alone that has gone back on its promise of autonomy; most of the other political parties, which were also forcefully demanding an autonomous corporation for Doordarshan and All India Radio, have become lukewarm on this issue. They too seem to fear the consequences of such a step and now point to the negative side and do

not emphasise the positive angle. So the current position is that no major political party is really keen on a genuinely autonomous corporation. The silence of the opposition and those supporting the Government from outside is disappointing.

The CPM, which is the biggest votary of State control and even wanted control over the second channel, is not protesting against the stricter control implicit in the new amendments. All that it wants is control on the commercial side.

The Congress(I) has never favoured the grant of autonomy and has, on the contrary, itself been exploiting the media for propaganda. Mr P. Chidambaram and Mr Ajit Panja (who was for some time an Information and Broadcasting Minister under Mr Rajiv Gandhi) merely seek structural changes. They have suggested a joint committee of Parliament to be called Parliamentary Committee on Media to scrutinise and monitor the functioning of the Corporation. This committee would have the power to receive complaints arising out of decisions of the Board. Its decisions would be final and the Corporation would have no choice but to implement it. The Left parties are not in favour of the Congress proposal.

The Documentary Producers' Association, a fully representative body, shares the view of the sceptics. It contends that the Prasar Bharati Bill evades the major issues; and in particular autonomy is being pushed out by assuming that there would be confrontations even before the reform measure has come into effect.

Mr B.G. Verghese, the well-known media expert and the probable Chairman of the proposed corporation, thinks the committee as proposed by the Congress(I) spokesmen could in due course become a super Board of Governors. He is of the opinion that no self-respecting person would like to join the Corporation on whose members the Sword of Damocles would be dangling constantly. The Government's professed intention is to have eminent persons in public life on the board, but their position would be odd. They can be served with a show-cause notice and

made to quit any time at the pleasure of the Government.

Mr P.C. Joshi, of the Institute of Economic Growth, who like Mr Verghese was closely involved in working for a policy for the electronic media, feels the arteries are already hardening. Why should the Government lose the advantage of putting their point of view to the people of India? he asks. Under the proposed Bill the Government holds all the levers and puts the responsibility of whatever is produced, on the Corporation.

According to him, in the Prasar Bharati Bill the sins of omission are as important as the sins of commission. There was no approach paper to the Bill. While on the one hand the Government was raising the slogan of autonomy and stressing the people's right to information, on the other it was committed to ensuring the right to work and minimum wages. The Government cannot ensure these rights without using the electronic media and thereby intervening in the autonomy of the Corporation. The social purpose of the electronic media is not explicit. Information is a good investment. What the Government hopes to give is taken away by not giving financial independence to the Corporation. If some control was needed on the funds, it could have been provided by the C.A.G.

Strangely enough, the so-called "nationwide debate" on the Prasar Bharati Bill has not yielded much. The Bill was introduced in Parliament on December 27, 1989, and has been before the country for about eight months. The debate outside Parliament resulted in hundreds of suggestions being sent to the Government on ways to strengthen autonomy and improve performance. But the debate inside Parliament was marked by indifference. In political terms the National Front will lay itself open to attack from its opponents who will justifiably use this issue to illustrate the party's lack of commitment to media autonomy. At the same time, by introducing a structure under the misleading description of an autonomous corporation, the Government will pave the way for future governments twisting the new Corporation to suit their own

purposes.

The National Front's Information Minister himself gave the assurance in January 1990, that the Government was keen "to give people what they want to know and not what we want them to know". But the only change the people have noticed is that the opposition viewpoint has started appearing on the electronic media.

Prime Minister V.P. Singh announced on July 7 this year that AIR and Doordarshan would be granted autonomy by the beginning of 1991.

VII. Conclusions and Suggestions

Whatever the form in which the Prasar Bharati Bill is finally approved by Parliament, some points are clear.

One, the autonomy provided under this measure is fake, not genuine. Political parties in power are reluctant to give up control over the media which they regard as vital for remaining at the helm of affairs.

Two, the principal party concerned with the functioning of both TV and AIR is the public who wants quality, just as the ultimate judge of a marketed product in the commercial arena is the consumer. So the public interest must not be sacrificed amidst the wranglings for power and patronage to accommodate various viewpoints. The recommendations made by the Verghese Committee and other panels should be implemented to safeguard the public interest.

Three, elementary justice and fair play require that dissenting and opposition views must have equal access to media time. This should not be at the discretion of those in control of the media but should be recognised as a matter of legal right. Broadcast time must be made available by an adequate statutory provision free of cost or at nominal rates by apportionment on a rational basis to be regulated by published norms administered by a machinery set up under the proposed law.

Four, it is necessary to form an appellate grievance committee presided over by a sitting Supreme Court Judge,

which could summarily look into complaints against unjust decisions. State governments, Opposition parties, news agencies, citizens' groups and other organisations could then have access to media time. In fact, redressal machinery is essential.

Fifth, the credibility of the State-controlled media, which was sadly eroded as a result of the undemocratic and domineering policies pursued by misguided and arrogant Ministers of Information and Broadcasting under the Congress regime, must be restored as early as possible.

What is urgently needed is an autonomous, socially responsible authority. This has been the aim in establishing similar bodies in some European countries, Canada, Australia, Japan and also some newly independent African countries. Communication in a developing country cannot be independent of other fields of development such as agriculture, industry, employment, education, health, etc. It provides impetus to the overall integrated development process.

India's diversity and the multiplicity of our languages, cultures, beliefs, histories and agricultural practices constitute a communication challenge of vast proportions. This challenge requires a decisive transition.

The present system of financing television and broadcasting should be so adjusted that a variety of opinions on public issues can be expressed. At the same time, every possible step should be taken to prevent political exploitation of the network and avoid consumerist or irrelevant programming. Social responsibility and public accountability should both be assured. Any type of autonomy that does not reject urban biased, undemocratic and commercial tendencies is likely to prove highly dangerous.

If real autonomy is to be given to the mass media, the government should also allow the setting up of private radio stations and TV centres for a healthy competition. Otherwise, there is no use in granting autonomy. Competition, as the British and American experience shows, ensures better quality and productivity.

Human Rights in India: Facts & Fiction

India claims to be a champion of basic human rights. But in one of the strongest denunciations, Amnesty International has held this country guilty of gross violations of such rights. What are the facts? Is it really true that India does not in practice respect the basic norms in this vital arena?

The Constitution of India guarantees all basic human rights and fundamental freedoms. In fact, the Chapter on Fundamental Rights of the individual is one of the most elaborate and exhaustive in comparison with those in the Constitutions of various democratic countries. Ours is a free, pluralistic society, pledged to democracy in the fullest sense. Distinctions and special privileges are ruled out; equality and justice for all are the themes that run through the lengthy document. Human rights in this country are enforced by effective organs of the State—an independent judiciary, a democratically elected legislature, an Executive fully responsible to Parliament and a free, vocal and active Press which is regarded as an independent guardian of the people's interests.

It is rather surprising, therefore, that even in Free India, the world's largest democracy, there are frequent violations of the basic rights. These violations seem to make a mockery of the elaborate, much-flaunted legal provisions. At world forums India's spokesmen always plead for safeguarding human rights, condemn suppression of individual freedoms and urge elimination of various distinctions between man and man anywhere and on any ground whatsoever. But in recent years some foreigners have started advising us to look within ourselves and set our own house in order before we urge others to pursue codes of good conduct.

Strong Indictment: The latest,

and in many respects the strongest, criticism of this country has been made by Amnesty International which, in its report for 1990 (published on July 10 this year) has painted a dismal picture. Several thousand political prisoners, among them prisoners of conscience, were held without any charge or trial under Anti-Terrorist or Preventive Detention laws in India, contends Amnesty International. Further, it alleges that torture and ill-treatment have been widespread, that more than 60 persons reportedly dying in police custody, several people "disappeared" after arrest and several hundred might have been extra-judicially executed. The section in the report on Punjab says that 495 "terrorists" were killed in the first nine months of 1989 and Sikh groups demanding Khahstan killed 764 people. In the chapter on Kashmir, Amnesty International says that violence by opposition groups supporting demands for independence had increased. The London-based organisation also raises the issue of prolongation of political trials and protection of the right to fair and prompt trial. An instance is quoted of the 20 prisoners who had been acquitted by a Hyderabad court in February, 1989. They were among the 40 persons charged in 1974 with a Naxalite conspiracy to overthrow the Government.

In the belief, mostly well founded, that foreigners have certain prejudices against India and generally express adverse and unwarranted views about the state of affairs in this country, the Government of India has disfavoured the entry of Amnesty International's teams of investigators. In fact, many foreign observers complained that in spite of being a democratic country, India remained a forbidden land for Amnesty International. Even in May this year, the Indian High Commissioner in London told this organisation that it would not be possible for the Govern-

ment in New Delhi to give visas to members of its research staff. Amnesty had sought visas to enable its representatives to visit Punjab to meet officials and civil liberties lawyers to discuss the issue of human rights protection. It may be recalled that after many months the Government of India lifted the ban on the entry of foreigners into Punjab. The Amnesty International's intention also was to discuss human rights developments with civil liberties lawyers in other States, especially Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, Gujarat and Madhya Pradesh. Although the Government of India did not give any reason for the refusal, Mr P.K. Kaul, former Ambassador to the U.S.A., explained that "as a sovereign and democratic nation, India cannot permit investigations by foreign governments or organisations into any aspect of her domestic affairs." But he also explained that in accordance with Prime Minister V.P. Singh's initiative on Punjab restrictions under the Foreigners' Act on visiting that State had been lifted. That would enable foreigners to visit Punjab without special permits.

Abortive Attempts: Since Amnesty International's visit to India in January, 1978, the organisation had been denied permission to carry on its activities here. But representatives of the organisation had occasionally been given visas to attend meetings in India. In 1988, Amnesty sought permission to visit Manipur to watch some trial proceedings and also visit Bihar to discuss its "concern" with the state of affairs in that State. The organisation has made attempts occasionally to discuss the issue of human rights with the Government of India, but without success. The question often asked by critics of the administration is: Has the Government several skeletons in the cupboard which it is reluctant to reveal?

In August, 1986, Amnesty International sought a review of the 326 cases of

Jodhpur detenus held after "Operation Bluestar" (June, 1984) and immediately release those against whom there were no specific evidence that they had been "waging war". The 59th Constitution Amendment, which conferred special powers on the Government to impose Emergency in Punjab, attracted critical notice. Amnesty suggested that those provisions of the Amendment which could apparently allow detention without judicial review and arbitrary shooting of people should be withdrawn.

Prolonged detention of people by the police without putting them to trial has rightly been deemed improper and grossly unfair. In this connection, the Amnesty's suggestion was that the police should be instructed to bring all arrested people before a magistrate within 24 hours of their arrest, and torture or ill-treatment be not permitted under any circumstances.

There have been many allegations against the Punjab police of arranging "fake encounters" in order to eliminate by shooting down persons suspected of being terrorists. In view of such complaints, Amnesty urged the establishment of an independent body to investigate allegations that political activists are deliberately killed in staged encounters with the police. These are cases of extra-judicial killings by the police; in the same category are the killing of scores of unarmed people by the Provincial Armed Constabulary in Malliana in May, 1987. Similar cases were also reported from Bihar, Andhra Pradesh and Manipur.

Among the other highly disgraceful violations of human rights and excesses by the authorities, including the guardians of law who are supposed to ensure protection are rape of women, especially those belonging to the weaker sections of society, in police stations.

India's Compulsions: The other side of the picture is not fully taken into account—the compulsions of the authorities in the context of the increasing terrorism, the instigation of lawless elements and extremists by Pakistan, the complicity of the hostile forces in cases of killings and assassinations, the ceaseless supply of weapons and the provision of training facilities to the

militants across the border. It is also ironic that Amnesty's verdict on Pakistan's gross violations of individual freedoms is mild.

Since Amnesty International is an organisation of independent persons not under the influence or pressure of any government or group, it would be wrong to dismiss its observations as incorrect, a figment of imagination or fictitious. But there is some basis for the impression of the arraigned governments that the verdicts are one-sided and do not consider the factors that impel even democratic and apparently fair-minded administrations to resort to violations of human rights, especially in cases of suspected persons.

Amnesty itself concedes that the Indian Government faces violent opposition by armed groups advocating separatism, greater autonomy or revolutionary changes in several parts of the country. Under these difficult circumstances the Government no doubt felt compelled to take stringent measures to maintain law and order and bring to justice those responsible for killings and other crimes. Moreover, the Government of India's task has become doubly difficult because armed opposition groups have in some cases threatened and attacked judges trying people accused of politically motivated crimes, or witnesses testifying at such trials.

However, Amnesty warns, there is serious danger of innocent individuals falling victims to the extensive powers which the Government has given to the security forces. To avoid such misuse, the organisation has recommended that the Government of India should review the National Security Act, the Jammu and Kashmir Public Security Act and the Terrorists and Disruptive Activities (Prevention) Act to ensure that their provisions are not used to detain innocent people or to curb legitimate political dissent. The Government has also been advised to restore important legal safeguards, customary in Indian law, to protect people from being arbitrarily detained, unfairly tried or ill-treated.

The realities: With these suggestions every fair-minded person would agree. Many people would also share the view that the police has been guilty of overstepping and misusing its

powers, in some cases deliberately but in most cases as part of the bid to show results of their actions, especially when they were at a disadvantage in tackling terrorists who were better armed and have always been able to choose their targets and their own timing after careful planning.

Sharply reacting to the Amnesty report released in August, 1989, a Union Government spokesman accused the organisation of presenting happenings in this country in a "very one-sided and distorted manner". The report tended to highlight stray incidents of human rights violation, but minimised the numerous rights and freedoms enjoyed by Indian nationals and the independence the Press enjoys in this country. The Government of India has also pointed out that most of the cases of alleged human rights violation had on thorough investigation been found to be baseless. Wherever charges were proved, exemplary action was taken against the guilty.

There is no doubt that Amnesty has been very harsh on the Indian Government. India's commitment to universal human rights is total and unqualified. The officials rightly assert that our Constitution, our open system, our independent judiciary and our rule of law, are well known as major vehicles for ensuring proper checks on violation of human rights. Much was made by the "excesses" committed by the IPKF in Sri Lanka. Some Indian army men were indeed found guilty of abusing their authority and they had to suffer for their deeds, but by and large the IPKF behaved in a commendable manner in the face of grave provocations. They did their duty in a restrained way. It seems Amnesty International has often relied on exaggerated press reports, deliberate distortions propagated by spokesmen of Punjab extremists and of discontented people of a particular community which unjustifiably harbours suspicions of New Delhi's intentions.

The Government of India has established its bona fides by withdrawing the 59th Constitution amendment, lifting the ban on Amnesty's entry and eliminating the rigours of several other measures objected to by this organisation and widely criticised in the U.S.A. and other countries.

Unity of Germany: Vital Factor

With Soviet acceptance of United Germany in NATO, following talks between Mr Gorbachov and Mr Helmut Kohl on July 17, the East-West deadlock over the future of Europe has ended. The economic and monetary unification of East and West Germany had paved the way for political unity. United Germany is likely to emerge as the strongest State in Europe, with an effective voice in shaping global affairs.

On July 1, 1990, East Germany, officially described as the German Democratic Republic (GDR), bade good-bye to nearly half a century of socialism and merged its economy with that of West Germany (German Federal Republic). Thousands of people took full advantage of the long-awaited development. The East German currency became almost worthless on that day and there was the inevitable rush for the West German Mark. Six weeks earlier, a State treaty had been signed for an economic, currency and social union; trade and travel barriers also ended. Last year about 340,000 East Germans crossed over in search of a brighter horizon in the West; this year the exodus might be even higher. The hunger for consumer and other goods was insatiable; the retail traders and Western suppliers scrambled to cash in on the new market.

The Background: On November 9, 1989, the Berlin Wall, which had kept the people apart, crumbled. Berlin, the famous capital of the once-mighty German Empire, bore the brunt of the exodus. Germany, which was dominated by Hitler and the Nazis for several years and which expanded with phenomenal speed into a terrific, almost irresistible political power, threatened the combined Western group for a considerable time. The Russians paid a heavy price for fighting Herr Hitler's hordes; thousands of people were killed by the Nazis and vast areas were reduced to ruins.

In the aftermath of the Allies'

victory, the Russians secured the area named East Germany, and also the eastern part of Berlin, while the Western Powers got West Germany and West Berlin. The Germans were a defeated people; their dreams were shattered. Their country lay prostrate before the victors who took full advantage of the situation and inflicted humiliating terms on the vanquished nation in a bid to make sure that it would never be able to rise again and pose a challenge to the West's supremacy. The Berlin Wall was designed to prevent the East Germans from "voting with their feet", as Henry Kissinger put it.

Of the four parts into which Germany was divided after the war, Russia was given the northern section of East Prussia, with about 14 per cent of the population and 24 per cent of the area covered by the former Reich. This area was constituted into the independent socialist State of the German Democratic Republic on Oct 7, 1949, with an area of 108,179 sq km and a population of 166,58,000. Its capital was Berlin.

The U.S.A., Britain and France occupied West Germany. The city of Berlin was also split into West Berlin, given over to the USA, Britain and France, and East Berlin to Russia. West Germany came into being on March 23, 1949. West Berlin is also a State of the Federal Republic, which has an area of 248,625 sq km and a population of 6,12,14,000. Bonn was made the capital.

West Germany made remarkable progress with the active assistance and supervision of the USA, Britain and France. In fact, the country became, like Japan in the East, the envy of the world. East Germany was left way behind with low economic aid from Moscow and substantial sacrifices made in pursuance of the Communist ideology. The people of East Germany have throughout envied the prosperity of West Germany; the attractive consumer goods attracting the masses of East Germany who had to remain silent

grumblers because of the low incomes, empty shelves at the shops, strict rationing and all-round austerity.

In modern times the tallest German statesman has been Willy Brandt, former Mayor of Berlin (he acquired much fame in that capacity) and former Chancellor of West Germany. He won the Nobel Peace Prize in 1985 marking world recognition of his contribution to the emergence of a new and progressive peaceful Germany. He has been out of power for over 15 years but is still much in demand for discussions of affairs concerning disarmament and unification of the two Germanies. In fact, he was the first statesman of international fame to comprehend and expound the implications of the Soviet-U.S. detente in Europe. He is a happy man today with the prospects of his vision proving true brighter than ever before.

Hopes and Fears: The monetary union has aroused hopes of a bright future among the East Germans who have suffered hardships. The demand for freedom from Communist control gained momentum following the Perestroika doctrine enunciated by Mr Gorbachov. The winds of change that swept Eastern Europe and led to a dramatic switch from communism to democracy in place of monolithic control inevitably affected the East Germans. Thus, for the most part the Kremlin leadership is itself to blame for the baffling rapidity with which discontentment grew in East Germany.

Top West German leaders, though not opposed to unification of the two entities, expressed fears also. They cautioned against the haste with which the ruling Bonn coalition was trying to push through a monetary and economic union without giving full consideration to the compulsions, welcome and unwelcome, of the socialist system. Mass unemployment is feared in East Germany and this, along with other factors, could greatly inflate the exodus of East Germans to western areas.

The economic unity, it is widely

believed, will involve considerable expenditure. Who will foot the bill? So runs the question. Unification of two Germanies under one coin has a price tag. Why should the West Germans bear the financial burden? This argument is countered by the plea, made by Chancellor Helmut Kohl, that the actual expenditure, or rather the financial involvement, will not be much and that too would be covered by the "substantial additional growth potential". The West German authorities have also argued that the economic boom in the west has already generated more tax revenue. The larger sale of goods and easier availability of labour would be helpful factors. However, some West German economists are critical of the Government's acceptance of the one-to-one formula (one deutschemark for one ostmark) and Bonn's offer to introduce its currency as legal tender in East Germany. There is danger of speculators exploiting the conversion facility.

In East Germany there are widespread fears of large-scale unemployment and rising prices. The West German traders are happy over the prospects of soaring sales of their goods and large markets in a unified German State. A modest estimate is that economic growth would be higher by one per cent. The combined real GNP of the united entity is likely to increase by one-third billion DM by the year 2000. The most optimistic economists assert that the economic potential is "incredible"; about 300 billion DM extra growth for West Germany. East Germany, on the other hand, may expect a transfer of resources from the West of more than 250 billion DM.

Well-informed sources feel that the fears of West Germans are not well founded because the hardships of the union will be much greater on the East Germans. The apprehension that the German economy as a whole will suffer because of increasing inflation is stated to be exaggerated. Even after fixing the concessional rates of exchange between the currencies of the two entities, the overall increase in money supply will not be more than 12 per cent. The impact on the trade balance will also not reach the level that was feared. West Germany's huge trade balance would be

reduced only slightly.

Military Power and Security

Aspect: Militarily, Germany has for decades posed a threat and a problem. Way back in the thirties, Hitler's impressive military strength created virtual panic in Europe and elsewhere. Jawaharlal Nehru said in Parliament in November, 1956, that "all over Eastern Europe, whether it is Poland or Hungary or Czechoslovakia, and those countries which have repeatedly suffered invasion from the German side, there is fear of an armed Germany."

The imminent unification of Germany and its immense military potential is causing concern to the Russians. Mr Gorbachov at one time suggested that the new German State should be neutral. On finding that his plea was unacceptable, he climbed down step by step and then favoured a new security arrangement in which both NATO and WARSAW Pact countries should not have vital roles. That would keep out the U.S. from European affairs almost wholly. This plan too could not be acceptable to the Western allies.

In mid-June this year Mr Gorbachov made another suggestion: a united Germany might become part of NATO provided this military grouping evolved into a political alliance. "We want to finish for good the existence of two blocs on the continent", he told the Soviet Parliament. Referring to the U.S. demand that a united Germany should belong to NATO, he indicated his willingness to agree provided the U.S. adheres to the principle that closing the gap between the two blocs should go together with German unification.

Later, Mr Gorbachov made it clear that Soviet troops would remain on East German territory for the transition period, during the building up of a new security structure. Another Soviet suggestion is that the new Germany should be made an "associate member of both NATO and WARSAW pacts. Mrs Thatcher had doubts and expressed the view that a country could not become an associate member of both alliances which were different from each other. President Bush also shrugged aside the suggestion and

asserted that a united Germany should be in NATO as a full member with no condition. That would be a "more stabilising position". West Germany has also rejected Mr Gorbachov's plea.

Meanwhile, an assurance was given by the East German Foreign Minister that united Germany would reduce its army strength from 600,000 to 300,000. He demanded withdrawal of chemical and nuclear weapons from the territory of united Germany and proposed that the funds intended for the surplus army be diverted towards financial assistance to the developing countries. This is a sensible suggestion but whether it will be approved by the power hungry and arms loving giant Powers is doubtful.

The last hurdles in early unification of Germany were cleared on July 17 when the Soviet Union accepted the new Germany's right to join NATO, and the border accord with Poland.

A treaty outlining details of German unification and a common constitution is expected to be finalised by September. One point of difference between the spokesmen of West Germany and East Germany concerns the location of the capital. Bonn, the stolid city with its democratic traditions, is favoured by many, but a negative point is that it is haunted by memories of the Third Reich and the Cold War. However, Berlin's supporters are fervently campaigning for choosing Berlin. This has become a sensitive issue.

Two leading States of Europe, Britain and France, have the fear (also entertained by many other countries of the continent) that a politically resurgent and militarily strong united Germany, with an army of 495,000 men plus 175,000 in East Germany, and fully capable of building nuclear weapons, would become a nightmare for a Fourth Reich. United Germany might even become stronger than the economically and politically weakened Soviet Union—and possibly even the USA. The collapse of the post-war world order may facilitate the emergence of a powerful Germany which would have to be reckoned with. India has maintained good relations with both Germanies and expects equally happy ties with the united entity.

Agricultural Policy Resolution

According to the Deputy Prime Minister of India, the country should have 'Kisan Raj' instead of urban-domination, as at present, because the majority population lives in villages. As such, the first step taken is to accord the highest priority to agriculture for which an agricultural policy resolution has been formulated. This feature discusses its provisions with comments.

I. Rationale

The unveiling of the draft Agricultural Policy Resolution (APR) nearly six months after the take-over of the National Front government is but a demonstration of its rural bias. That the Deputy Prime Minister of India would like to have 'Kisan Raj' instead of the prevailing urban-domination (alleged by him) shows the political motivation of the APR.

On economic grounds, the *raison d'être* of the policy statement is to bring about transformation and re-structuring of agriculture. While the need for such a change is unexceptionable, the question remains whether the APR *per se* would achieve this objective within a reasonable time-frame.

However, it is re-assuring to note that the Eighth five-year plan, 1990-95, will have a particularly rural-orientation as stated in the plan approach paper, recently approved by the National Development Council. The shift from the alleged pro-urban stance of the previous plans to the pro-rural stance now is justified on the plea that India's population is concentrated in villages but is steeped in poverty; that economic disparities between the rural and the urban regions are rampant and that the incidence of unemployment and under-employment in villages is higher. As such, no economic development can be meaningful without the upliftment of the rural masses.

It would be wrong to construe this as though there has been a complete neglect of the rural economy. Far from it. The government in the past has shown no less solicitude to improve their quality of life than the ruling government does.

II. Salient Features

The salient features of the draft policy statement may be enumerated as follows:

(1) **Outlay:** The farm policy—the first of its kind after the pattern of the Industrial Policy Resolution, 1956—points out that the farmer is a businessman making use of his assets like land, equipment and labour to generate surplus but the Indian economy has not treated him well. It says that despite the Green Revolution, the White Revolution, the Blue Revolution and the Yellow Revolution, the majority of the farming community stays poor compared to their brethren in the cities and towns.

In a strident bid to make up the yawning gap, the APR envisages doubling the outlay from 21 per cent in the seventh five-year plan to 40 per cent in the subsequent plans. The eighth plan approach paper has gone a step further. It postulates 50 per cent of the public sector outlay of the plan for agricultural sector. The disparity in the two figures is perhaps due to the different components included in the sectoral share.

(2) **Growth:** The draft policy has targeted the annual growth rate at 5 to 5.5 per cent (revised draft) as against the trend growth rate of 3.6 per cent.

(3) **Growth strategy:** The decisive pro-farmer policy recommends the continuance of the past growth strategy of input subsidy and incentive pricing in the form of support/procurement prices for the various crops. This is

considered essential for optimising efficiency, coupled with equity, on the farm front.

(4) **Price computation:** The policy suggests a new cost-price model in order to rectify the adverse terms of trade (87 as against 100 in 1965) of the agricultural produce vis-a-vis the industrial products and to ensure remunerative procurement/support prices of the various crops. The elements of cost of agricultural produce will now include minimum wages of labour, managerial and entrepreneurial reward and the changes in prices due to inflation during the period between the announcement of the procurement prices and actual purchases.

(5) **Maximisation of output:** For a quantum increase in productivity from land and higher value-addition in agriculture, a systems approach is sought to be introduced. This approach is based on scientific methodology. The cropping pattern in each agro-climatic zone of the country will be determined, not haphazardly as in the past but by the nature of the soil; rainfall; water availability and climate along with socio-economic conditions of the people. The prevailing unscientific method of crop-raising needs to be abandoned.

(6) **Land reforms:** The laws enacted to bring about land reforms are to be included in the Ninth Schedule of the Constitution so as to place them beyond the purview of the courts and to facilitate their enforcement without hindrance or delay.

(7) **Agriculture-oriented institutions:** The vast network of institutions concerned with agricultural universities, extension services, inputs, irrigation, price support services, cooperative credit will be revamped.

(8) **Increased employment:** Since the labour absorption capacity of

heavy and basic industries is on a low key, the accent of the policy is on deploying agriculture for increased employment generation through higher investment in irrigation projects and agro-industries.

(9) **Irrigation expansion:** The objective is also to bring under the plough the un-irrigated lands. This will step-up both employment opportunities and production. Seventy per cent of the net cropped area of the country which is un-irrigated and accounts for 42 per cent of the total foodgrain production will be benefited under the irrigation expansion schemes. Watershed development programmes at government cost may well be launched in the un-irrigated areas.

(10) **Diversified production:** A change in cropping pattern and crop rotation is envisaged to achieve diversified production in agriculture. Besides this, higher production in horticulture and vegetables is called for to meet increased demand following income increments of the farmers

(11) **Farm forestry:** For ecological balance so essential for proper growth and development of agriculture and, particularly, for reduction in soil erosion and proper rainfall, the policy emphasises that farmers be encouraged to take up forestry programmes. This will provide them an additional source of income and also bring marginal land in use.

(12) **Panchayati raj:** A unique feature of the proposed policy is that all decisions on various matters concerning agriculture be taken up by village, block and district level panchayats. This will ensure farmers' participation in the development process from below upward and lead to higher efficiency and prosperity.

III. Comments

While the need for an agricultural policy for India—a predominantly agricultural country—cannot be over-emphasised, the draft document has “lots of chaff, very little grain”. It speaks the language of the big farmer who, in the past, has been the main beneficiary from the Green Revolution. The problems of the small and marginal

farmers and agricultural landless labourers are left at the mercy of the growth theory (which the Planning Commission has rejected).

The APR reflects the unfortunate tendency of an ambience of confrontation between the villager and the city dwellers. It must be understood that the parity between agriculture and industry desired by the champions of farmers is not possible.

The policy advocates the continuance of a host of crutches such as subsidised inputs like fertilizers, water, power, remunerative prices for the agricultural produce. The beneficiaries from such concessions are mainly the bourgeoisie or big farmers, not the proletariat.

While the policy talks of concessions and reliefs, which, as stated earlier, will benefit the rich farmers, it is tight lip on levying income tax on them.

Agriculture, which is dependent on concessions, cannot, obviously, gain a sound footing. That is our experience in the past.

In the new model for the computation of the procurement prices, minimum wages and entrepreneurial rewards are to be reckoned. It is feared that the State governments may raise the minimum wages (much above the wages actually paid by the employer) only to hike the procurement price to the benefit of the big farmers. This would widen the rich-poor gap by giving lopsided benefits to surplus farmers and little to the landless labourers.

The policy is unrealistic. To achieve the average annual growth rate target of 5 to 5.5 per cent as against the long-term growth rate of 3.6 per cent would require Herculean efforts in providing necessary infra-structure: technology, extension services, inputs such as water, fertilizers etc.

The mere inclusion of the land reform laws in the Ninth Schedule of the Constitution as contemplated in the draft document is not adequate. What is required is strict and expeditious enforcement of the laws. The fact that there has been lack of political will to do so in the past makes one doubt whether it will be done now. The policy document

does not spell out measures to show better performance in this regard. Nor is there any indication as to how the hurdles in enforcing it, such as updating of land records and distribution of surplus land, will be overcome.

It may be pointed out that unless the land distributed among the landless labourers is cultivated efficiently and its recipient is provided with other essential inputs mainly credit the purpose of land reform is lost.

Increased allocation of the order of forty per cent or more of resources sounds fine. The question is what are the components of the allocated share. Will higher quantum of investment result in a commensurate increase in productivity and production? Is the enhanced allocation based on an empirical study? At least, the policy document says nothing on this point. In view of the resource crunch, will not higher share of the total resources for agriculture mean starving other sectors of the economy and, ultimately, retardation in growth? Would it be wise to dump 100 per cent additional resources in the farm sector which is vulnerable to the vagaries of monsoon? These are crucial questions calling for careful consideration at the hands of the policy-makers. It will be suicidal to make a policy based on emotions.

What is so important is not to divert more resources for the development of agriculture but to make effective and efficient use of the available means. It is a familiar fact, for instance, that the irrigation potential is not fully utilized. The farmers cultivate land without paying due regard to its consequent fall in productive capacity or vulnerability to erosion.

The policy must lay emphasis not only on higher production and productivity but also on marketing the produce on a profitable basis. At the same time, proper storage facilities in the villages should be provided.

In sum, there is nothing much in the policy to generate euphoria even though the government might well give expression to it and claim to be the first to take such an initiative. This is evident from the fact that it has been revised thrice but is not yet finalised.

World Prospects: Dark or Bright?

The latest peep into the future, especially the world in 2000 A.D., has just been made by the UN Population Fund, entitled "The State of World Population, 1990". Actually it is a global profile, warning us of horrendous consequences for future generations if corrective steps are not taken to end the glaring disparities and injustices in various continents. The proposition for discussion is: "The outlook for the world at the turn of the century is dark and disheartening."

Mr A Sir, as we all know, from time to time far-sighted people, some well-intentioned, others habitual pessimists, make forecasts and projections about the future of mankind. Many of them caution us against the impending disaster—when there would be darkness all around, with vanishing food stocks, expanding deserts, besides near-total absence of basic human values such as kindness, compassion and consideration for others. There would be so much pollution, intense stifling smoke and unimaginable congestion everywhere that there would not be enough of the necessities of life to go around. Selfishness, cruelty and the tendency to grab everything one can lay one's hands upon would be at their worst. Instead of cordiality, smiles and handshakes, there would be acute hostility and tensions born of jealousy which would be fed continuously by the intense competition for subsistence and for even minimum living space on earth, not to mention the unending competition for jobs, professions and services which would become more and more scarce as the years pass. I would like to quote some of the tell-tale figures given by the State of the World Report whose authors cannot be accused of bias or prejudice because UNFPA is an independent body, like other organisations set up by the

United Nations. Between 90 to 100 million people would be added to the world population every year. The biggest increases would be in the poorest countries of Asia and Africa, notably India. The total number of malnourished people in poor countries, now put at 512 million, would go up to over 532 million by the end of the century. The number of children out of school would go up to 315 million by the year 2000. The number of illiterate people rose from 742 million to 889 million between 1970 and 1985. This figure would increase substantially in the next decade. So also the number of people without proper sanitation. The large-scale urbanisation, the unplanned growth and the degradation of water resources, all cumulatively would make life hardly worth living. The hard-hit Third World nations need generous aid from the prosperous countries. But the aid quantum has been falling; moreover it is now given not on human considerations to the needy people but on political considerations. The debt burden of poor nations more than doubled in the period 1980-88. Is the general outlook not heart-breaking and dismal? I ask

Mr B I submit, sir, that there is no limit to cynics, incorrigible pessimists and habitual forecasters of doom. My predecessor, like some others, have got hold of some figures which are actually meant to warn us against the population explosion, and they evidently ignore the brighter, positive side. They also seem to be unaware of the remarkable progress in technology, both in industry and farming, made in recent years. This progress has brought about a transformation which is truly unprecedented. Even during the Industrial Revolution in the Western regions did the world witness such all-round progress as has been registered during the past decade or so. In

fact, Rip Van Winkle, on getting up suddenly from his great slumber, would not be able to recognise the world as it is today. What reason have they to believe that the Golden Age is long gone by and will never come again? The fears of the cynics that a decade or two from now there would not be enough food and adequate shelter for everyone are likely to prove baseless in view of the revolutionary improvements in the agricultural techniques and the intensive cultivation as a result of which more foodgrains are being produced even from moderate size holdings. The increasing use of fertilisers and other inputs, as part of the revolution in agriculture techniques, the new dry farming practices, the greater incentives to agriculturists, the spurt in industrial production, the availability of more and more consumer goods and, what is more important, the higher incomes of the people enabling them to buy modern conveniences and electrical gadgets as symbols of the higher standard of living—are these not indications of a happier tomorrow in spite of the increase in population. The much-feared shortages of food, goods, living accommodation and other things, are therefore unlikely to materialise. On the contrary, the prospects are brighter than ever before. We have no reason to develop a gloomy outlook about the days to come. The better and quicker means of transport, the numerous time-saving devices and conveniences, the ever-increasing opportunities for supplementing income are all to the good. Life would be more enjoyable and we would have more leisure and more avenues of pleasure following the amazing progress of television and broadcasting. The housewife in urban areas today is already becoming aware of the new gadgets and conveniences. She does not feel that cooking food is a detestable drudgery. Those who have a pessimistic outlook on life

must have noticed the change for the better noticeable in the manner of living of their own children—better dress, better accommodation, and a mode of conveyance (say a scooter or moped) for every college-going student and office worker. In the face of these improvements, what is the justification for pessimism?

Mr C I submit, sir, that while optimism is a good quality; it lifts, even if temporarily, the clouds of gloom. But we should not be carried away by the rosy picture being painted by some people about the progress of industry and agriculture in the future. Wisdom demands realism of a high order. If we live in an imaginary world, hoping for the best even in the face of uncontested facts and the writing on the wall, we would be committing a great blunder. The naked children and inadequately clad women workers in the rural areas, the increasing destitution, the numerous diseases, the deterioration in the standard of physical fitness, the resultant rush in hospitals where beds are becoming difficult to get, the increasing number of heart patients, the tensions, the intense personal worries and the psychological stresses are all pointers to the dark future. The stark irony of the situation is heightened by the strange decisions of various governments, notably the Government of India, to reduce almost every year the financial allocations for human resource development. As a result of political compulsions, there is wholly inadequate expenditure on this vital sector. What is the point in making all sorts of tall claims about social welfare plans, the prospects of improving basic human values, developing human character which alone can build up a sound nation if the investment on education and other vital areas is curtailed first of all, before cuts are made in other branches of activity. Human resource development gets a low priority. In India there is a Human Resources Development Ministry, but few pay any attention to it. Its overall performance, according to officials themselves, has been poor. Countries where human resources are well

developed become economically and socially progressive. Economic development follows human resource development. So if human resource development is not adequate, the plans to increase the production of goods and commodities will not materialise. The result would be acute and persistent shortages. Nothing is more hurtful to an individual than semi-starvation and destitution. That, unfortunately, seems to be a near certainty in the coming decade and the probable shape of things to come. I would also like to draw the attention of the audience to the assessment made by social reformers and public analysts regarding the nexus between crime and civilisation and between crime and politics. It is indeed a slur on civilisation that as the years pass, there is more and more crime of various types. Pick up any day's newspaper and what do we find? Reports of murder, dacoities, terrorist activity, crime against women, kidnappings and rape, hold-ups and accidents on road and rail, endless adulteration of food articles, intense pollution of the atmosphere through the amazing number of motor vehicles and factory pollutants. There is more stress and strain and uncertainty of life. In this connection, it would be relevant to quote an observation made by George Bernard Shaw many years ago. He castigated our superficial civilisation thus: "Our laws make law impossible, our liberties destroy all freedom, our property is organised robbery; our morality is impudent hypocrisy. All this deterioration and hypocrisy are likely to get worse in this age of selfishness. So the outlook for the future is dark and dismal. That is the truth."

Mr D Sir, cynicism and pessimism are born of personal frustration and other problems affecting the individual concerned. So it appears as if those who are presenting a dark picture of the future have some heavy burden on their own minds. Otherwise, who would not concede that the world is progressing rapidly. As for the dismal forecasts, we would do well to remember that

God did not confer on man the capacity to look into the future of the shape of things to come. If he has prior knowledge of what is in store for him, he would become either careless, or desperate or imprudent and wait helplessly for things to happen as ordained by the Almighty. What has to be, he will think, will be; so what is the point in working hard day and night. All men desire to live in peace, freedom from war and strife, and to develop freely and fearlessly. On a rational and realistic outlook depends our life. But some people have the habit of forgetting or just ignoring the positive side and over-emphasising the negative side. True, there are indefensible inequalities, glaring disparities, much misery and maldistribution of goods and commodities. But things are not as bad as they were thirty or forty years ago. Isn't everyone's standard of living higher now than it was some years ago. Isn't there more prosperity and more production than before? One estimate is that the world is now producing three times as many goods and services as it did in 1950. The Age of the Computer has dawned; it has already transformed our life, and all indication points to even greater mechanical and electronic facilities for men and women in every country and their enjoying more conveniences than ever before. Modern technology has brought benefits to the Third World also. What is more, things are bound to improve further as the years pass. The increasing awareness of basic human rights will, hopefully, serve as a factor that will check exploitation of the weaker sections. The advances in medicine and the cleaner surroundings have all helped to raise the average span of life. In India the span is now put at 57 years against 45 barely a few years ago. We are currently assured of amenities that would make life more pleasant and free from drudgery, with more leisure and more income. So what is the justification for a gloomy outlook on life and needlessly making our terrestrial existence miserable?

Argumentative Questions on Social and Economic Problems

We publish below the complete answers to the first four questions set in the Reserve Bank of India Staff Officers' Grade A Examination, 1990, "Paper on Social and Economic Problems". The answers to the remaining questions will be published in our next issue.

We thank Mr Swapan Kumar Mitra of Calcutta for sending us the question paper.

Q. 1. "The Indian economy has witnessed a striking structural transformation over the Plan period." Discuss.

Ans. Planning implies adoption of scientific methods to ensure the maximum utilisation of the country's economic resources with the aim of expediting all-round growth and development. Without planned development there would be confusion, waste and even anarchy in the economic arena. In sound planning there has to be a balance between heavy industry, light industry, village industry and cottage industry. We have to produce more and consume more so as to raise the standard of living. Planning also implies socio-economic justice and elimination of inequalities and disparities as far as possible.

Implicit in planning are: Identification of problems, targets and systematic allocation of resources. Development through Five Year Plans started in 1950, but after four decades of planning the overall economic scene is one of distortions, lopsided growth and misdirection of the massive allocations of funds. Full employment and productivity, along with infrastructure and human resource development were set as the guiding principles. There is no doubt that there have been significant changes in the socio-economic and political environment, but despite seven Plans India has failed to solve the major problems of poverty, unemployment, structural

inequality and regional disparity. A number of factors, including inadequate allocation of funds, faulty conceptualisation, impractical designs, weak strategy and, above all, shortcomings in implementation have been responsible for the wholly unsatisfactory results in structural transformation. A faster rate of growth in industry and agriculture was sought through higher investment in the infrastructure. But the results present a mixed, confusing picture.

Some positive gains are however undeniable. Electricity generation has increased by about 35 times, the national income has grown by three and a half times and industrial output by five times; agricultural production has more than trebled. The failures on several fronts are due to inherent defects in planning and development. This has led to a further concentration of wealth and income and widened the gulf between the rich and the poor. The top one per cent of the population corners 14 per cent of the wealth in the country. Population explosion is another factor in the dilution of the benefits. The increasing expenditure under non-development heads has further retarded the process of growth and development.

The view that there has been a striking structural transformation over the Plan period is only partially correct. Economic development and infrastructural facilities have certainly come about but the economy is still lopsided and there are many deficiencies. Moreover, the public sector still yield totally disproportionate returns. Independent professional management can be the only route to profitability for both public and private sectors. Nationalisation is no panacea for sick or dying establishments. According to the Union Finance Minister, Mr Madhu Dandavate, the philosophy appears to be "nationalisation of losses and privatisation of profits". This certainly calls for speedy correctives. The Union Government

has affirmed that the emphasis and thrust of economic policy will continue to be on self-reliance.

Q. 2. Discuss the arguments For and Against privatisation of public sector enterprises in India.

Ans. In recent months there has been considerable discussion on the issue of privatisation of public sector enterprises. This step was initially suggested by independent economists in view of the huge losses being incurred by the public sector.

Arguments For Privatisation

1. It marks a recognition that in many areas of economic activity non-official professional managers have been remarkably successful despite many handicaps and made the plants entrusted to them efficient and highly profitable. On the other hand, State-run enterprises have been suffering losses year after year despite the many facilities they enjoy. Thus there has been colossal waste of precious national resources. Privatisation has been urged in all such cases as the best remedy. The process of transfer is already under way and has proved beneficial in almost all cases.

2. Since a substantial increase in production at lower costs is urgently needed, the aim can be better achieved by letting the efficient private sector expand instead of sinking more money in State-managed enterprises.

3. Another step towards liberalisation of the public sector was taken by the Government on July 19, 1990, with the grant of permission to the private sector to set up steel plants upto a capacity of one million tonnes per annum. The liberalisation is in tune with the Industrial Policy Resolution of 1956. The public sector will however continue to enjoy a commanding height.

The policy of liberalisation is needed because the country has been facing a debt trap internally and externally, and

the only way to get out of it is to produce more.

Arguments Against Privatisation

1. In the public sector, service replaces profit and market success as motivation; accountability should be to the people at large, and not to consumers alone.

2. Investment is made in areas of poor profitability, or where capital requirements are very large because of tradition and assurance of continuity. Employees feel more secure and are better cared for in the public sector. For instance, there is substantial outlay on housing and labour welfare schemes. There is uniformity of rules and norms in different public sector enterprises. There is the Bureau of Public Enterprises which lays down and enforces the norms.

3. There is a certainty in respect of quality. State-owned firms do not generally market poor quality goods, while the private sector often does because its motive is to make money anyhow.

4. Worker participation in management is another commendable factor; This is not easy in the private sector.

5. Public sector profits, where obtained, can be used for providing social services such as education and hospitals. In the private sector the profits are pocketed by the industrialists.

Q. 3. (a) What is the logic behind the policy of liberalisation of the Indian economy?

(b) What have been the effects of this policy?

Ans. (a) Basically, the policy of liberalisation adopted by the Government of India implies relaxing of restrictions on industrial enterprises, fewer arbitrary administrative controls, ultimately getting closer to the market economy and permitting more competition. Thus increase in production, fulfilment of society's needs cheaply, at lower costs of national resources are facilitated. Industry would be helped to become globally competitive. Foreign capital certainly has a role to play as a medium for bringing in modern technology. There is even a proposal to hike the MRTP investment exemption limit from Rs 100 crore to Rs 500 crore and

the automatic approval limit for foreign equity control from 40 per cent to 51 per cent in specified industries. After noting the entrepreneurial capacity to mobilise resources on a large scale, the planners argued the case for greater private sector participation in areas hitherto largely in the public sector.

Bureaucrats do not have the knowledge to decide correctly who wants what, in what quantity and at what price. Let the market do the job, thereby making the consumer the king. In every country changes in situation call for changes in production patterns. Businessmen's response is quicker than that of bureaucrats who have little at stake. The latest indications are that liberalisation, so far practised in industry, is to be extended to agriculture which is to be imparted a sharp export orientation. The aim will be to give a boost to agricultural output and income. The new agricultural policy visualises a growth rate on par with or close to the growth rate of GDP projected in the Eighth Plan.

(b) Effect and Result of Liberalisation: A notable sequel to the policy of liberalisation has been a more efficient and satisfying economic structure. More funds become available for investment, thus facilitating further industrial development. The competitive economy and the new price mechanism permit optimum attraction of productive capacity from the standpoint of the community's needs.

The danger of excessive elitist production is largely illusory. The newly marketed goods are needed by the people and they are ready to pay higher prices for them. The World Bank has advised India to go in for further trade liberalisation in order to fight poverty. Such a course encourages exports and allows efficient labour-intensive import substitution.

But the liberalisation process should not be extended too far. The process carries certain risks and may harm the interests of indigenous industry. In fact, liberalisation may at some stage become a trap. India should consolidate the values and gains of liberalism already achieved instead of paying too heavy a price for hasty, ill-planned liberalisation.

There is also the fear among many people about the growing influence and control of multinationals in this country. Already these MNCs have captured a good part of the consumer goods market.

Q. 4. Discuss any two of the following statements:

(a) India's record in the matter of economic growth.

Ans. India can rightly claim to have a creditable record of economic growth despite many obstacles, occasional setbacks, both natural and man-made. The economy showed an impressive growth rate of 4.5 per cent per annum (compound) during the 1980s compared to 3.8 per cent per annum during the 1970s. The economy also witnessed structural changes in the various sectors in terms of the contribution of each sector to the GDP.

There has been a structural shift from the primary sector (agriculture) to the secondary (manufacturing) and tertiary sectors—transport, communications, banking and insurance, public administration and defence. During the decade 1970-71 to 1980-81, the share of the agricultural sector in the GDP (at 1970-71 prices) declined by 6.9 per cent from 48.4 per cent to 41.5 per cent, and further by 7.1 per cent, down to 32.5 per cent in 1987-88, from 39.6 per cent in 1980-81.

Industries showed stagnation during the 1970s and picked up in the eighties, but the tertiary sector slowed down considerably, yielding ground to the manufacturing sector. The rapid growth is indicative of the buoyancy of the economy which, if not allowed to dissipate, should pay rich dividends in the future. The industrial sector certainly needs to be strengthened but the farm sector will also have to be taken care of to meet the growing needs of the bulging population, mainly food. Agricultural development has also to become export-oriented. The disturbing fluctuations within each sector should be minimised.

The faster growth will not be meaningful unless the vulnerable sections of society share its fruits. Growth must be equitably shared and not concentrated in fewer hands as has

been the case even during the period of the Five Year Plans. The economic growth during the Seventh Plan period has been 5.5 per cent, per annum—far above the proverbial “Hindu rate” of growth of 3.5 per cent. But the envisaged benefits have not trickled down to the poor segment of the population in rural areas.

(b) **“The banking system in India has achieved a new dynamism in the post-nationalisation period.” Discuss.**

Ans. The aim of nationalisation of banks (effected in 1969) was to bring commercial banks into the mainstream of economic development with definite social obligations. The other aims were to mobilise people’s savings to the largest possible extent and to utilise them for productive purposes, to meet the legitimate credit needs of private sector industry, trade (especially of smaller units), professionals and of agriculture, and also to foster growth of progressive entrepreneurs so as to help develop backward areas.

There is no doubt that the banking system has shown a new dynamism in the years following nationalisation. The banks now have a progressive outlook and have tried to achieve the new goal of social service through liberal loans on easy terms, and sponsorship of new development projects. The expansion of branches in both rural and urban areas has been phenomenal. They have served as instruments for promoting social and economic development in a purposive manner. In fact, in the post-nationalisation period there has been rapid growth of the banking system. The needs of villagers and of rural areas have been particularly met. The thrust of branch expansion policy has been on improving the availability of banking facilities in rural and semi-urban areas. The Union Government has been urging the banks to work wholeheartedly towards alleviation of poverty. This is a part of the new policy of dynamism. But one aspect of the dynamism does not conform to sound banking practices—the loan “melas”, the wiring off of loans to farmers and politicisation of operations.

(c) **The viability of India’s**

balance of payments depends largely on accelerated export growth.

Ans. There is no doubt that the viability of the country’s balance of payments (BOP) depends on larger exports. If the rate of export growth is unsatisfactory as it is now, we shall continually face the risk of a larger budget deficit. Substantial changes in the fiscal system are urgently needed to facilitate export-oriented economic growth.

Even the latest review of the Indian economy for 1989-90 showed that the balance of payments position continues to cause concern, notwithstanding the spurt in exports of 21.3 per cent. The imports increased much more—26.6 per cent.

The hudgetary deficit has increased sharply during the past few months—far beyond the Rs 7,206 crore estimate in the 1990-91 hudget. The Eighth Plan (old Approach Paper) envisaged an annual growth rate of 12 per cent in exports. But there are several constraints in this area: narrow production base, poor competitive ability in the international markets, little product diversification, lack of an adequate infrastructure and the protectionist policies of the industrialised countries.

The steps taken to correct the persistent adverse BOP and avert the debt crisis by promoting exports are: liberalisation of trade and industry policies, cutback in unessential imports, a better institutional framework for exports and stimulating export consciousness. The 1990-91 hudget proposals facilitate the import of capital goods and machinery against export obligation. This is also a feature of the new Exim (export-import) policy announced on April 1, 1990.

(d) **A qualitative change in Indian agriculture is discernible since the adoption of the package approach in the late sixties.**

Ans. The late sixties marked the first Green Revolution (1967-68) which brought about a notable change in the production of Mexican wheat and dwarf rice. It was the result of introducing new high yielding varieties of seeds. The Green Revolution was confined largely

to Punjab, Haryana and parts of U.P. The total production of foodgrains went up substantially; the per capita net availability of foodgrains rose to a level of 463 grams per day in 1985 as against 395 grams in the early fifties.

In terms of gross fertiliser consumption, India ranks fourth in the world after USA, USSR and China. The compound growth rate in agricultural production since the late sixties has been 2.63 per cent per annum, the production of foodgrains having risen from 5.49 crore tonnes to 14.55 crore tonnes. The cropping pattern is now more diversified and the cultivation of commercial crops has received a new impetus in accordance with domestic demand and exports requirements.

Efforts have been made during this period to utilise scarce resources to the best advantage possible. The population pressure has of course been much higher; even so, the country has been able to improve the availability of basic consumption articles. Thus the standard of living of the people has risen as the farm technology has been transformed.

The second Green Revolution started in 1983-84 as a result of organised input management. The production in 1984-85 was 146.2 million tonnes. The figure reached 157 million tonnes in a good monsoon year in (1989-90 there was a record production of 172 million tonnes) but even in the drought year (1987) the total production was 135 million tonnes as a result of the latest farm techniques and the good irrigation facilities in States such as Punjab, Haryana and West U.P.

But Indian agriculture still suffers from several handicaps; but for these, farming would have made even more rapid strides. These are: the large number of marginal holdings, the continuing shortfalls in oilseeds and pulses, inadequate irrigation in about 70 per cent of the agricultural land, poor enforcement of land reforms, inadequate attention to water management and the need of harnessing all river waters.

MODEL PARAGRAPHS

"The web of our life is of a mingled yarn, good and ill together."

—Shakespeare

What makes the drama of life earnest and exotic? The answer lies not in the extremes but somewhere in the middle where human action of mingled variety takes place in full view of the spectators, who in their own turn perform nearly identical roles in their lives. In fact, if the cob-web of life emits the exciting and ennobling colour of goodness to catch which one has to undergo a rigorous and relentless self-sacrifice and self-abnegation, the same web throws evil like a gauntlet to overcome which one has to be ever alert and armed so that the evil does not distract and distort our identity to the irredeemable extent. Goodness is man's spiritual strength whereas evil is his sensuous and sinuous snare. Both are an inalienable part of his existence, sometimes the one dominating and dictating the other and vice versa. Life would have lost much of its pain and pleasure had there been only good or only evil in possession of our life like a sinister spirit. Since we play the game of good and ill like a see-saw, we experience thrill as well as thud. Day and night, good and ill, sweet and sour—these are some of the inevitable happenings that make the path and pursuits of life purposeful and poignant. In the words of George Santayana: "Life is not a spectacle or a feast; it is a predicament."

"Hardly anything will bring a man's mind into full activity if ambition is wanting."

—Sir Henry Taylor

Ambition should always be thought of as 'a life-sustaining elixir', as illuminating and illustrious as the Pole Star, stirring and stimulating all humane action; as a spirit behind all adventures leading to near miraculous and breath-taking discoveries and inventions. Without ambition, life is a

burden being carried unwittingly and unwillingly but motivated by it, life becomes a colourful creation of God with ambition as its very *raison d'être*. Mind, with its indomitable and invincible trait prods and propels human beings to be ambition-oriented so that the on-going process of progress is not only continued but also pushed and preserved further. Lest it is misconstrued and misconceived, one should always bear in mind the fact that the essence of ambition in life is positive, profound and pristine. Between ambition and obsession—the former has brought the world from darkness to light whereas the latter has ever plunged the world back into the abyss. A man of ambition is a friend of all but an obsessive man is a maniac who can land us into the garbage and gutter of death and destruction any time anywhere. Human mind is like a rock from where ambition brings out milk and honey to sweeten the poignant paths of life.

"Thought without action is an abortion; action without thought is folly."

—Jawaharlal Nehru.

Both thought and action are complimentary as well as supplementary to each other. The one without the other is incomplete, immature and inchoate. An action bereft of thought is abortive and absurd whereas thought not followed by appropriate action is folly and fallacy. Thought in a human being is like a pilot who guides life's course on the turbulent and tumultuous sea of chance and challenge, opportunity and opposition. A thoughtless action tantamounts to groping in the dark and an actionless thought means building castles in the air—the inevitable result of both being kicks and knocks, jcers and jolts. An action supported and sustained by thought is like a sword and its shield—both standing by each other in fair and foul weather. Mere wishful thinking

cannot move the mountains nor sheer bragging can tame the rivers. For harmony and happiness in life, both thought and action have to work hand-in-glove with each other because neither is complete in conception and execution without the other. For the fruitful turning of life's wheel and for keeping the wolf of woe and worry at bay one should always move forward with open eyes, clear mind, alert brain and energetic limbs so that we do not become an object of ridicule and standing joke for others. Also, "Thought is action in rehearsal." (Sigmund Freud)

"The happiness of men consists in life and life is in labour."

—Tolstoy.

Life is an action packed serial and its happiness in the natural offshoot of love and labour. Man has always been considered the maker of his destiny and any aberration or deviation from this age-old concept and conviction is fraught with dismay and desperation. One may wish to taste and relish pleasure out of parasitic existence but happiness in life lies in lust for labour and passion for work only. 'Work is worship' is said of those who chasten and chisel the curves and contours of life under sun or rain, chill or cheer. No achievement big or small is conceivable in vacuum because all edifices of success and sanctity have been built on the sweat and blood of those who have readily fallen for the fruits of labour rather than for the ones of rest and passivity. Life is more an action than contemplation; it is better to die in harness than in the bed. It hardly matters what our vocation is but it does signify a lot how we acquit ourselves here and now. 'Dignity of labour' has always been eulogised in religious scriptures, mythological tales, and the life histories of all great men. Thus it is needless to reiterate that life, labour and happiness make a transparent triangle on this earth.

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Thinking Straight

The trouble with most people is that they think with their hopes or fears or wishes rather than with their minds.

—Walter Duranty

What is straight thinking

Straight thinking means logical thinking. "Logic" itself, according to M.R. Cohen and Ernest Nagel is defined thus: "Logic is correct reasoning. By logic we can find out what follows if we accept a given statement as true." According to Stuart Chase, "Logic is the process of drawing a conclusion from one or more statements or proposition, called premises." It is correct thinking. Here are two examples of what is not correct thinking:

"Your religion is different from mine", is a fact.

"Therefore, you are no good", is an illogical conclusion.

Another instance of illogical conclusion or deduction is the story of the Soviet educator, Mistschurin who was discussing insects at Moscow University. "I have here a flea on my right hand" said he to the students. "I now order it to jump over to my left hand. The flea obeys, as you see. Now I repeat the experiment, and the flea obeys again. Now I remove the legs of the flea and order it to jump. But it does not. Therefore, gentlemen, we have scientific proof that a flea whose legs are moved becomes deaf."

Straight thinking occurs when *because* follows and makes sense. It does not occur when it does not follow and does not make sense.

Here is a statement supported by four *because*s, all wrong:

The earth is flat. Why?

Because it looks flat.

Because people would fall off the underside if it were a ball.

Because the gods say it is.

Because my father told me so.

Here is an instance of a correct

because given by Cohen:

"The number of inhabitants in New York City is greater than the number of hairs on the head of any inhabitant."

How come?

Because tests have demonstrated that the limit of hairs on any human head is five million. There are eight million people in New York city. Therefore, there are more people than hairs on any head.

Rules for straight thinking

There are certain rules which can guide us in thinking straight i.e., thinking reasonably and logically. These are as follows:

In the process of thinking apply the scientific method. Scientific method means common sense or the objective view. "It consists in putting two and two together regardless of one's wishes and prejudices.

In the application of the scientific method three steps have been suggested:

(1) Get together the facts bearing on your question.

(2) Develop a theory or hypothesis to explain the facts.

(3) Arrange experiments to verify the hypothesis. Maintain a healthy scepticism throughout, and be ready to say "I was wrong".

Go to facts

Go straight to facts. Base your conclusion on actual observed facts. Make your wishes conform to themselves to facts, don't try to make facts harmonize with your wishes.

Blinking facts *because* they are unpalatable or *because* they appear ugly to our sentimental vanity is fatal to straight thinking and, therefore, to success in life.

Avoid Rationalization

Straight thinkers avoid rationalization, that is finding logical reasons for what one wants to do or

going to do any way. It is used to bolster one's hopes, desires or prejudices. D.S. Robinson quotes the "philosophy of an airman" as a lively instance of rationalization. An airman has really nothing to worry, for look:

If you fly, well there is nothing to worry about. If you go into a spin, then one of the two things can happen: either you crash or you don't. If you don't crash, there is nothing to worry about. If you crash, one of two things can happen: either you hurt yourself or you are not hurt. If you are not hurt, there is nothing to worry about. If you are badly hurt, one of two things can happen: either you recover or you don't. If you recover, there is nothing to worry about. If you don't recover, you can't worry! But there is a catch in it. If you don't recover and are crippled for life, there is plenty to worry about.

The price of rationalization is self-deception. As a result we are less likely to profit from our errors. When used to an extreme degree it may lead to the development of false beliefs or delusions which are maintained in spite of contradictory objective evidence. Don't take anything for granted. Avoid thinking dogmatically.

Beware of proverbs

Proverbs must be taken with a pinch of salt in straight thinking. There are many pairs of proverbs contradicting one another.

Examples are:

1. Look before you leap.

He who hesitates is lost.

2. Too many cooks spoil the broth.

Many hands make light work.

3. Fine feathers make fine birds.

Clothes do not make the man.

4. Absence makes the heart grow fonder.

Out of sight out of mind.

Many proverbs, like "No body works unless he has to" and "Spare the rod and spoil the child" contradict modern knowledge. Some are blatantly

cynical, like "Marriage is lottery". Some, like, "Every cloud has a silver lining" is too consolatory. Other like "Call no man happy till he is dead" is too crudely defeatist.

As a writer says, "Proverbs and adages, like old shoes, are comfortable and easy. They help keep the conversation going and sometimes reflect real wisdom. But they should never be accepted in lieu of solid proof".

Think in terms of probabilities

Straight thinkers think in terms of probabilities rather than absolutes. They don't take a rigid 100 per cent position on a given problem. Instead of saying, "Russia is going to collapse within six months", rather say, "If the report on the crisis in Russia are true, it looks as though the Kremlin would have to change its policy."

Think in terms of relativity

Einstein's demonstration has a place in straight thinking. Here is an illustration showing the relativity of 'hot' and 'cold'. Put very cold water in one pail, very hot in another, tepid in the third. Dip your right hand for a moment in the hot water, then in tepid. How does it feel? *Cold!* Now hold your left hand first in the cold water and then in the tepid. How does it feel? *Hot!* The same pail of water can produce sensations either 'hot' or 'cold' depending on where your hand has last been. It is the relation that counts rather than absolute property of 'coldness' or 'hotness'.

Process Thinking

Straight thinking is process thinking, no linear thinking. A given effect—whether tummy ache or a revolution—may be the result of many causes and in turn produce still further effects. Don't look for a single cause for campus unrest or juvenile delinquency; various processes are at work and remedies must be sought accordingly.

Don't think in terms of polar words

Polar words are directly opposite words—"words that stand at opposite poles". Examples are: good and bad, true and false, black and white. When one uses polar words, he tends to think in terms of one hundred per cent and an inflexible system of valuation. A mature person recognizes not only black and

white, but an infinite number of shades of grey. He does not think only in absolutes for he has learned that there is both good and bad in all people and all things.

Substitute "It seems to me" for "It is"

Whatever a person knows is only a part and not all of what there is to know. He is, therefore, well advised to remember this and adopt the "It seems to me" approach. Oddly enough, it is the guy who knows everything who has the most to learn.

Remember also motto of the great French sage-essayist, Montaigne: What do I know?

Logical fallacies

Finally it is vital to straight thinking to beware of logical fallacies. In each logical fallacy "the reason which follows the terms *because*, fails, under analysis to make sense". Either the facts are inadequate, or the logic is bad or both. The main logical fallacies are outlined below:

(1) *Over-generalization*: Jumping to conclusions from one or two cases. As O.W. Holmes (Jr) has it, "No generalization is wholly true not even this one." One swallow does not make a summer!

(2) *Getting personal*: For saking the issue to attack the character of its defender. In a British Court as the attorney for defence took the floor, his partner handed his note: "No case. Abuse the plaintiff's attorney."

(3) *Cause and effect*: Of event B comes after event A, then it is assumed to be the result of A. A lady breaks a mirror; and later in the day loses her purse. The broken mirror, she says, caused the loss.

(4) *False analogies*. This situation, it is argued, is exactly like that—but it isn't.

Example: There is no smoke without fire.

How does Winston Churchill propose to build three hundred thousand houses a year in his post-war housing programme, when it took him five years to build one brick wall at his country place. (Churchill built the wall with his own hands and hobby, but his housing programme was to be designed and financed by the British Govern-

ment and built by thousands of craftsmen and labourers. There was no valid comparison.)

(5) *Wise can be wrong*: Clinching an argument by an appeal to authority. *Examples* are: My grandpa said so. "It says so in the Bible".

(6) *Figures prove*: Often figures are misleading. Disraeli used to say, "There are three kinds of lies: lies, damned lies and statistics." You should use statistics as a drunker uses a lamp-post for support rather than illumination.

(7) *Arguing in circles*: Using conclusion to prove itself.

Examples are: A has written several books on Ornithology because he is an authority. A is an authority on ornithology because he has written several books on it.

A fortune teller said to a client: "Your son will be famous if he lives long enough!"

"What will he be famous for?"

"For having lived so long!"

(8) *Black or white*. Forcing an issue with many aspects, into just two and thus ignoring important shades of grey.

The world does not consist of 'good guys' and 'bad guys'. Humanity cannot be divided into Aryan (higher race) and non-Aryan (lower race) as fanatical Hitler attempted to do.

Man, a logical animal

Man is a logical animal. The glory of man is his capacity to think logically. His supreme instrument is reason. When he causes to be logical, thoughts are reduced to confusion and gibberish; sound and fury signifying nothing.

Straight thinking is one of the essential traits of a sound personality. It is an indispensable quality of leadership. It makes for clear and logical exposition as well as balance of judgement. These are some of the qualities which the boards of interviewers for public services look for in the candidates. It also enables us to cope intelligently with problems of everyday living.

Straight thinking is an art. Some of its techniques have been outlined above to guide those who want to cultivate it. The game is surely, worth the candle.

TEST OF REASONING-I

NUMBER SERIES

Find out the missing numbers in the series given below:

1. 502; 513; 535; 568;
2. 6; 14; 30; ...; 126.
3. 1; 2; 3; 1; 4; 9; 1; ...; 27.
4. 9; 10; 14; 23; 39; ...
5. 8; 17; 9; 21; 12; 27; 15; ...; 21
6. 9; 3; 6; 1; ...; 2; 3; 2; 1.
7. 14; 60; 28; 45; ...; 30; 56.
8. 8; 48; 16; 36; 24; ...; 32; 12.

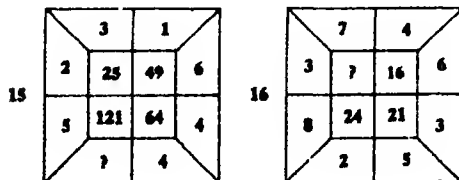
Numbers in questions 9 to 12 follow the same arrangement. Your task is to study the pattern and find out the missing numbers.

- | | |
|-------------|-------------|
| 9. 4 13 12 | 10. 9 ? 28 |
| 3 ? 11 | 6 45 24 |
| 5 6 7 | 13 8 5 |
| 11. 12 17 ? | 12. 6 31 24 |
| 2 35 26 | 7 48 19 |
| 6 3 14 | 11 18 ? |

On the basis of the examples given in questions 13 and 14 find out the right numbers for the brackets.

13. 181 (324) 163
219 () 199
14. 517 (410) 303
316 () 218

Find out missing numbers in questions given below:



LETTER SERIES

Find the odd-man out:

17. (a) PSRQ (b) CGEF (c) JMLK (d) VYXW

18. (a) QOS (b) DBF (c) WUZ (d) JHL
19. (a) HDF (b) PLN (c) EAC (d) TPS
20. (a) FBED (b) MHLK (c) RNQP (d) ZVYX
21. (a) DCAE (b) KJHL (c) QPMR (d) YXVZ

Find out the missing letters with their corresponding numbers in questions given below:

22

	2	3	5
B	C	E	
8	12	17	
H	L	Q	
23	30		
W	D	?	

23

	5	7	8
R	S	T	
10	4	6	
8	T	R	
5			6
T	?	S	

24	BA	DD	FG	HJ
	3	8	13	18
	JM	LP	?	PV
	23	28		38

Write the first six letters of the word INTERCOMMUNICATION in reverse order, then the next six in reverse order and then the remaining six in reverse order.

25. Which letter, other than the one that already has a repeated occurrence in the word repeats itself next to it?

26. Which letter is tenth from the right?

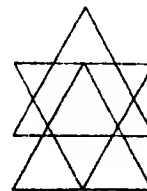
If the whole set of the new arrangement of letters was written in a reverse order.

27. Which letter will continue to remain at the same position?

28. Which letter is exactly between 13th letter from left and 10th from right?

FIGURE OBSERVATION

Study the figure given below and answer the questions that follow:



29. How many triangles does the figure contain?

- (a) 13 (b) 14 (c) 15 (d) 16

30. How many straight lines (minimum number) are needed to form the figure given above?

- (a) 9 (b) 10 (c) 12 (d) 15

CODING-DECODING

Words on the left are written in their coded form on right. Your task is to find out the right code for letter enclosed in box.

31. B R A N D Y

- (a) p (b) c (c) t (d) m (e) w (f) k

32. H E R M I T

- (a) q (b) b (c) d (d) p (e) f (f) y

33. L E G I O N

- (a) l (b) n (c) c (d) z (e) d (f) a

34. P L A G U E

- (a) z (b) a (c) f (d) v (e) s (f) w

35. M I G H T Y

- (a) d (b) y (c) m (d) q (e) a (f) b

36. D E P A R T

- (a) b (b) w (c) v (d) f (e) t (f) p

37. If PANTHER is coded as OBMUGFQ, decode DMDQGBMU.

STATISTICS

The chart given below was prepared on the basis of a survey made by agents who supplied soaps A, B, C and D to consumers in a certain area. The report is for four consecutive months and includes the rate per piece and the number of consumers who purchased the item.

MONTHS SOAPS		JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH	APRIL
A	RATE	Rs 5	Rs 5	Rs 5.50	Rs 5.50
	No. of Consumers	519	553	548	560
B	RATE	Rs 5.50	Rs 6	Rs 6	Rs 6
	No. of Consumers	612	598	603	637
C	RATE	Rs 7	Rs 7	Rs 7	Rs 8
	No. of Consumers	418	427	458	427
D	RATE	Rs 8	Rs 8	Rs 8	Rs 9
	No. of Consumers	401	412	401	396

38. What approximately is the average cost per soap?

- (a) Rs 5.92 (b) Rs 6.48
(c) Rs 6.25 (d) Rs 7.00

39. Which soap has third place sale-wise?

- (a) A (b) B (c) C (d) D

40. What is the difference in the total sale amount of soap B and C?

- (a) Rs 1857 (b) Rs 1932
(c) Rs 1914 (d) Rs 1886

41. If the owner of A pays Rs 4 on 10 soaps as tax, how

much tax has he paid during the period mentioned above?

- (a) Rs 872 (b) Rs 1090
(c) Rs 892 (d) Rs 852

42. What has been the percentage of the consumers in the area mentioned above who used soap D?

- (a) 21.3% (b) 22.6%
(c) 18.9% (d) 20.2%

43. If we compare the statistical data of January and April, how many more persons started using the soaps mentioned?

- (a) 60 (b) 80 (c) 90 (d) 70

44. Number of consumers in February was what per cent of the total number of consumers who bought these soaps? (Approximately)

- (a) 24.2% (b) 26.3% (c) 25% (d) 23.9%

LOGICAL DIAGRAMS

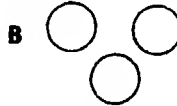
Items in questions 45 to 50 have been represented by circles according to the relationship among the items. Your task is to match the right parts.

Note: The size of the circle is of no importance.

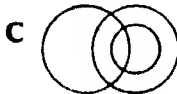
45. tumbler : mug : glass



46. map : geography : atlas



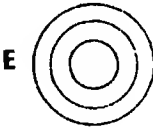
47. field : home : farmer



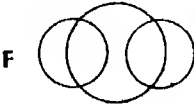
48. creature : mammal : cow



49. stove : pots : kitchen



50. information : electronics : computer



ANSWERS AND EXPLANATIONS

1. 612. Go on adding 11; 22; 33 ... to numbers.
2. 62. Double the number and add 2 to get the next number.
3. 8. Numbers 1, 2, 3 have their square in the next set followed by their cubes.
4. 64. Add $1^2, 2^2, 3^2 \dots$ to numbers.
5. 36. Each alternate number is the total of numbers on its right and left.
6. 5. Each alternate number is the total of next two numbers.
7. 42. The series has tables of 14 and 15 alternately.
8. 24. The arrangement has two series, 8, 16, 24... and 48, 36, 24....
9. 22. Pattern is $4+3=7$; $4+7=11$; $5+7=12$; $6+7=13$; $6+4+12=22$.

10. 23
11. 20
12. 13
13. 400. $219 - 199 = 20$. The number ought to be $20 \times 20 = 400$.
14. 267. The pattern is $316 + 218$ divided by 2.
15. 6. The number in the central quarter square is the square of the total of numbers near its corners $(6+5)^2 = 121$.
16. 15. Multiply numbers in corners and the product is in the diagonally opposite square, i.e., $3 \times 5 = 15$.
17. (b)
18. (c)
19. (d)
20. (b)
21. (c)
22. L38. One extra letter is dropped in the next square and the number matches with the gap.
23. R9. Letters RST are repeated line-wise and column-wise and the total of numbers line-wise and column-wise is 20.
24. NS : 33. For the first letter in boxes, the gap is of one letter and for the second one, of two letters. Add the position of the letters in the alphabetical order to get the number.
25. I
26. U
27. C
28. N
29. (d)
30. (a)
- 31 to 36. Sort out common letters in words and match them with letters in codes.
31. (c)
32. (a)
33. (f)
34. (d)
35. (b)
36. (f)
37. ELEPHANT
38. (b)
39. (c)
40. (a)
41. (a)
42. (d)
43. (d)
44. (c)
45. B. All are independent items.
46. D. Maps are in atlas, Geography is a subject hence has its independent identity.
47. F. Farmers look after their fields as well as they look after their homes.
48. C. Some creatures are mammals and cow is a mammal.
49. A. Both the items are inside the kitchen.
50. E. Computer has information and computer is an electronic device.

TEST OF REASONING-II

ODD-MAN

Find the odd-man out:

1. (a) jogging (b) walking
(c) shopping (d) skipping
(e) gymnastics
2. (a) shirt (b) trousers
(c) skirt (d) petticoat
(e) jeans
3. (a) lion (b) jackal
(c) dog (d) cat
(e) fox
4. (a) water (b) mirror
(c) gelatin paper (d) petrol
(e) plain glass
5. (a) Byron (b) Keats
(c) Bacon (d) Shelley
(e) Wordsworth
6. (a) diamond (b) ruby
(c) emerald (d) turquoise
(e) garnet
7. (a) square (b) trapezium
(c) rhombus (d) rectangle
(e) parallelogram
8. (a) balm (b) vaselin
(c) cream (d) syrup
(e) ointment

ANALOGIES

Tick-mark the choice with a similar relationship in words as given in question.

9. inspiration : poetry
(a) music : notes (b) dirt : disease
(c) brush : painting (d) thought : mind
10. discipline : army
(a) administration : management
(b) moon : night (c) expression : commentary
(d) ration : food
11. malaria : fever
(a) plague : death (b) earthquake : destruction
(c) health : vaccination
(d) thief : prison
12. whisper : shout
(a) hide : show (b) smile : shyness
(c) rise : success (d) mountain : climb
13. candle : wax
(a) bulb : light (b) fan : air

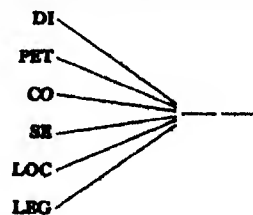
- (c) glass : water (d) ice-cream : milk
14. monkey : tree
(a) bird : sky (b) eskimo : snow
(c) elephant : cave (d) forests : mountains
15. water : thirst
(a) food : eat (b) room : house
(c) bread : butter (d) rest : fatigue
16. point : line
(a) road : lane (b) village : city
(c) drop : ocean (d) grass : straw

What is common in the following? Tick-mark the most appropriate choice.

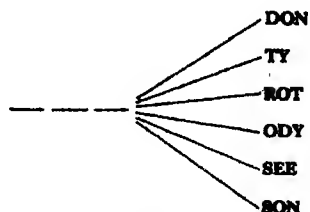
17. love : respect : sympathy.
(a) They are feelings.
(b) They are sentiments.
(c) They are not reciprocal.
(d) They can't be displayed
18. James Bond : Sherlock Holmes : Hercules Poirot
(a) They are agents of CBI.
(b) They are the only detective agents with license to kill.
(c) They are private detectives.
(d) They are characters from detective fiction.
19. Laxman : Shankar : Mario
(a) They are gods.
(b) They are cartoonists.
(c) They are famous writers.
(d) They are characters from Indian epics.
20. Mahadevi Varma : Amrita Pritam : Sarojini Naidu
(a) They are governors of States.
(b) They are well known musicians.
(c) They are poetesses.
(d) They are freedom fighters.

LEXICAL ITEMS

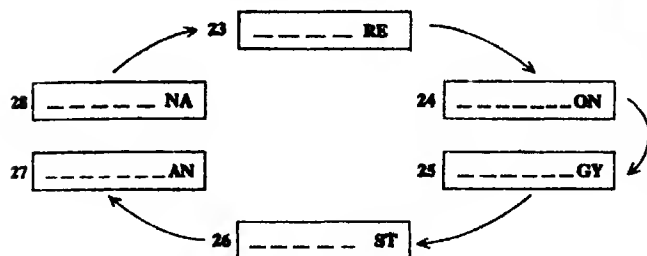
21. Which two letters can be added to all the following sets of letters to form words?



22. Which set of three letters, if used before all the letters given below, would form words.



Given below is a cycle of words. Each next word starts with the last two letters of the preceding word. Follow the clue and find out these words.



23. God's creation.
24. A revolutionary.
25. Science concerned with metaphysics.
26. An expert in physical exercises.
27. A person playing an important role in govt management.
28. An instrument for the reception of programmes that are telecast.

Find out four-letter words for brackets, which if added to letters on right and left would form different words.

29. IM () ION
30. INTI () RIAL

LOGICAL DEDUCTIONS

During a calamity, donations were collected.
D donated half the amount of B and double of C.

E donated more than D but less than B.

A donated a little less than D and A more than C.

31. Whose donation was the highest?

- (a) A (b) B (c) C (d) D (e) E

32. Who was fourth in the list of donors?

- (a) A (b) B (c) C (d) D (e) E

Seven boys A, B, C, D, E, F and G are standing in a line according to the following order:

F is between C and B.

D and G have two boys between them.

A is to the left of D and D to the left of B.

33. Who is on the extreme right?

- (a) A (b) B (c) C (d) E (e) G

34. Who is third from left?

- (a) A (b) B (c) D (d) E (e) G

Four men Shiv, Raj, Ved and Vijay are married to Poonam, Shashi, Rani and Kusum and each couple has a daughter Ritu, Tanu, Meeta and Suman. Your task is to match the right parts on the basis of the statements given below:

Meeta is not Vijay's or Poonam's daughter.

Shiv or Kusum are not Ritu's parents.

Raj is not Rani's or Shashi's husband

Poonam is not Raj's or Vijay's wife and her daughter's name is not Suman or Ritu.

Shiv is not Rani's or Poonam's husband and his daughter's name is not Meeta.

Suman is not Rani's daughter

- | | | |
|------------|-----------|-----------|
| 35. Poonam | (A) Raj | (a) Ritu |
| 36. Kusum | (B) Vijay | (b) Tanu |
| 37. Shashi | (C) Ved | (c) Meeta |
| 38. Rani | (D) Shiv | (d) Suman |

The average age of four boys A, B, C and D is 14.

B is three years older than D who is 1 year younger than A.

C is 5 years younger than A.

39. Who is the eldest?

- (a) A (b) B (c) C (d) D

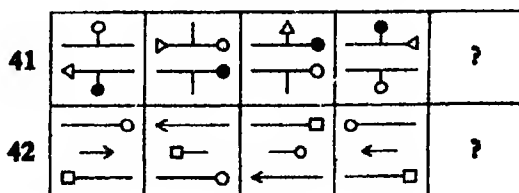
40. What is the age of D?

- (a) 12 (b) 13 (c) 14 (d) 16

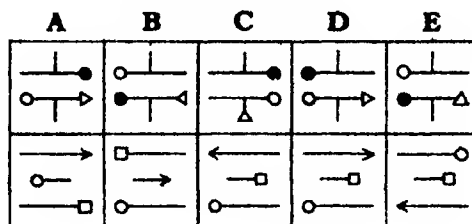
NON-VERBAL SERIES

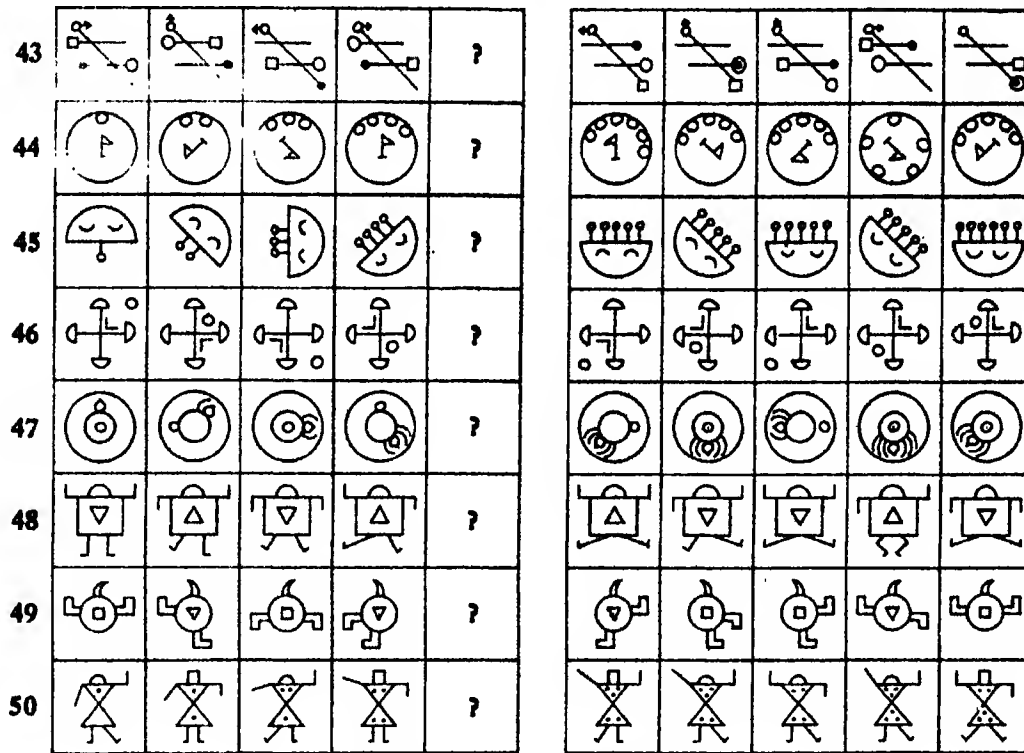
Given below are two sets of figures, the Problem Figures and the Answer Figures marked A, B, C, D and E. Your task is to find out which of the Answer Figures from A, B, C, D and E would fit in place of the question-mark in the Problem Figures.

PROBLEM FIGURES



ANSWER FIGURES





ANSWERS AND EXPLANATIONS

- (c) All the others are forms of physical exercise.
- (a) All the other garments are not for portions above waist.
- (d) It is the only one that can climb on trees.
- (b) All the others are transparent.
- (c) He is the only prose writer among poets.
- (e) It is a semi-precious stone while all the others are precious ones.
- (b) In all the other figures, the opposite sides are parallel to each other.
- (d) All the others are applied on the skin.
- (b) The other is born due to the first.
- (c) The first one is the most essential part of the second.
- (b) The relationship is that of the event and its inevitable consequence.
- (a) The words are opposites.
- (d) The relationship is that of the item and the main material it is made of.
- (b) The relationship is that of the creature and the place where it lives and rests.
- (d) One gets rid of the other and satisfies the person.
- (c) Just as a line is made of many points in the same way ocean is made of many drops.
- (b) 18. (d) 19. (b) 20. (c) 21. AL
- RAR 23. NATURE 24. REBELLION
- ONTOLOGY 26. GYMNAST 27. STATESMAN
- ANTENNA 29. PORT 30. MATE 31. (b)
- (a) 33. (c) 34. (a) 35. Cb 36. Ac
- Dd
- Ba
- (b)
- (c)
- D. Circle and triangle go round clockwise with triangle changing direction and the dot goes round anti-clockwise.
- D. The rod in the middle goes to the top and the figure changes side, the top one goes down and the lowest one slides up.
- B. The top knob rotates anti-clockwise, circle covers three points, the dot and square go round zig-zagging.
- E. One circle is added and flag rotates anti-clockwise.
- A. The figure rotates clockwise, one peg is added and two small arcs turn upside down.
- C. The circle goes round clockwise entering the figure and going out again, the 'L' shaped line has a clockwise movement too.
- B. The 'bud' moves round clockwise with one arc added to left and right by turns, the small circle goes in and out.
- C. The triangle becomes inverted alternately, hands and feet are lifted according to a regularity.
- E. Triangle and square have alternate occurrence, figure at the top changes direction and one of the arms comes down in opposite direction and when goes up, both face the same side.
- B. Head is round and square by turns; legs are lifted alternately, right arm goes up and down by turns and left arm is lifted slowly.

TEST OF REASONING—III

SYLLOGISM

TYPE I

In the following statements, a situation has been explained in a few sentences followed by a conclusion. You have to say whether the conclusion:

- (a) necessarily follows from the statements.
- (b) is only a long drawn one.
- (c) definitely does not follow from the statements.
- (d) is doubtful as the data provided is inadequate.

Note: Your answers should only be in the light of the statements given.

Statements:

- (1) 1. Only people living near sea-coast are fond of fish.
- 2. The Bengalis are very fond of fish.

Conclusion: Bengal is situated on the sea-coast.

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐

Statements:

- (2) 1. Words 'babu' and 'sahib' can be found in every English dictionary.
- 2. 'Babu' and 'Sahib' are actually Indian words.
- 3. The word 'lord' is also found in English dictionary.

Conclusion: 'Lord' originally, is an Indian word.

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐

Statements:

- (3) 1. Couples sometimes seek divorce after remaining married for years together.
- 2. Mr and Mrs Smith have been married for more than twenty years.

Conclusion: They will seek divorce now.

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐

Statements:

- (4) 1. States get money from the Centre to fight with unforeseen calamities.
- 2. Centre has given special sanction to State 'X'.

Conclusion: State 'X' was hit by some calamity.

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐

Statements:

- (5) 1. The Northern Rly has banned smoking in AC hospitals and educational institutions run by it.
- 2. It has also banned smoking in AC coaches.

Conclusion: All the members, who took this decision were non-smokers.

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐

Statements:

- (6) 1. Bidders participating in auctions have to deposit money before bidding.
- 2. After the auction, the highest bidder pays the full

price.

Conclusion: The money deposited before bidding is not included in the price.

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐

Statements:

- (7) 1. Mohan is a player as well as a singer.
- 2. Smita is a dancer as well as a player.

Conclusion: All players are interested in fine arts.

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐

Statements:

- (8) 1. The sale of synthetic garments goes down during summers.
- 2. The sale of cotton garments increases in summers.

Conclusion: In summers, cotton clothes are more comfortable than synthetic ones.

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐

Statements:

- (9) 1. After settling bilateral issues the delegates concerned shake hands.
- 2. The education minister of India was shown shaking hands with education minister of country X in the news telecast.

Conclusion: They had settled some bilateral issues regarding education.

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐

Statements:

- (10) 1. Some people shop for upto-date fashion.
- 2. Some shop for necessities.

Conclusion: Those who go to buy necessary items buy outdated items.

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐

TYPE II

In making decisions about important questions, it is desirable to be able to distinguish between 'strong' arguments and 'weak' arguments so far as they are concerned with the question. 'Weak' argument may not be directly related to the question, may be of minor importance or may be related to some trivial aspect of the question. Each question given below is followed by two arguments numbered I and II. You have to decide which of the arguments is 'strong' and which is 'weak'. Then decide which of the answers given below and numbered (a), (b), (c), (d) and (e) is the correct answer.

- (a) Only I is strong.
- (b) Only II is strong.
- (c) Both I and II are strong.
- (d) Either I or II is strong.
- (e) Neither I nor II is strong.

11. Can generation gap be bridged?

- I. Yes, with a liberal mind, a sympathetic attitude and perception, the generation gap can be easily bridged.

11. No, the old totally forget what it is to be young and the young have no idea of what it is like to be old.
(a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐
12. Is honesty always the best policy?
I. Yes, it is a wise old saying.
II. No, the cheats are much more happy and prosperous than the honest.
(a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐
13. Is there anything like destiny?
I. Yes, that is the only explanation for individual joys and sufferings and success and failures.
II. No, destiny is just a lazy person's explanation.
(a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐
14. Is present man's mentality different from that of the primitive man?
I. Yes, the present man has become sophisticated.
II. No, the basic instincts and mentality remain the same under the covering of sophistication.
(a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐
15. Are children living in hostels less attached to their parents?
I. Yes, living away from parents makes them more self-centred and they don't miss them.
II. No, they feel a longing for the love and protection of their parents hence become more attached
(a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐
16. Does a lay man enjoy a modern art exhibition?
I. Yes, the difference from traditional art is most fascinating.
II. No, he understands nothing and feels rather lost and exasperated.
(a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐
17. The situation in State X is getting beyond control Will the Governor resign?
I. Yes, if he is unable to control the situation, it is his moral duty to resign
II. No, he will continue his effort to control the situation and meet out the challenge.
(a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐
18. Do robberies need planning?
I. Yes, unless every detail is worked out and all the pros and cons are measured thoroughly, a robbery cannot be successful.
II. No, the robbers are daring people and commit robberies on an impulse.
(a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐
19. Do people who change religion lose faith in the old one altogether?
I. Yes, the new religion opens new horizons.
II. No, the old faiths are too deep rooted to die.
(a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐
20. Will increase in railway and bus fares make travelling more comfortable?
I. Yes, the extra money has been taken to provide more facilities to passengers.
II. No, the passengers are facing the same difficulties that they had been facing previously.
(a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

TYPE III

In questions given below, statements 1 and 2 are followed by conclusions I and II. Taking the statements to be true although they may seem at variance with commonly accepted facts, mark your answers as under:

- (a) Only I follows.
(b) Only II follows.
(c) Both I and II follow.
(d) Either I or II follows.
(e) Neither I nor II follows.

Statements:

21. 1. Only those pins are unable to prick that do not have a blunt point.
2. Only those pins are blunt that are not red like the rest of the pins.

Conclusions:

- I. Red pins can prick.
II. Blunt pins prick.
(a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

Statements:

22. 1. All boys are children and all children have beards
2. Some girls are children.

Conclusions:

- I. Some girls have beards.
II. Some girls do not have beards.
(a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

Statements:

23. 1. All those trains are crowded that do not have a diesel engine.
2. All steam engines are slow.

Conclusions:

- I. Trains with steam engines are over-crowded.
II. Trains with diesel engines are fast.
(a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

Statements:

24. 1. Some shirts are caps.
2. Some caps are shoes.

Conclusions:

- I. Some shirts are shoes.
II. None of the shirts is a shoe.
(a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

Statements:

25. 1. All poles are discs.
2. All discs are blocks.

Conclusions:

- I. All discs are poles.
II. All blocks are discs.
(a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

Statements:

26. 1. All dogs are snakes.
2. Some snakes are birds.

Conclusions:

- I. Some birds are dogs.
II. Some birds are not snakes.
(a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

Statements:

27. 1. Some books are grapes.
2. All grapes are sour.

Conclusions:

- I. Some books are sour.
II. Some grapes are not books.
(a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

TYPE IV

In questions given below, a statement is followed by implications I and II. Tick-mark your answer:

- (a) if only I is implicit.
(b) if only II is implicit.
(c) if both I and II are implicit.
(d) if either I or II is implicit.
(e) if neither I nor II is implicit.

Statement

28. A smuggler carrying drugs, revealed during interrogation that the racket operated on the Indo-Pak border of Jaisalmer area.

Implications:

- I. Both, the Indian and the Pak citizens are involved in smuggling contrabands.
II. Sand-dunes of Jaisalmer provide an excellent hiding place for the smugglers.
(a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

Statement:

29. Country 'X' has decided not to purchase any more arms.

Implications:

- I. The country already has a sufficient stock.
II. It is absolutely sure of a peaceful future.
(a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

Statement:

30. All State events have a colourful opening.

Implications:

- I. The events as such are drab and colourless.
II. The colourful ceremony is performed by the delegates who participate in the event.
(a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

Statement:

31. There is a request from some of the organisations to ban drinking scenes from films.

Implications:

- I. They incite the young to experiment with liquor.
II. They are rather vulgar and obscene.
(a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

Statement:

32. Children under 10, employed as carpet-weavers in Mirzapur work for 20 hours a day and get only meals as wages.

Implications:

- I. There is no law against child-labour or working hours for labour in the country.
II. Food in Mirzapur is very expensive.
(a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

Statement:

33. In India, comics for children are mostly based on

stories from old scriptures.

Implications:

- I. It is an indirect way of acquainting the children with old scriptures.
II. India has a rich cultural heritage.
(a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

Statement:

34. People take off spectacles before going to bed.

Implications:

- I. These people do not care to see their dreams too clearly.
II. Going to bed wearing spectacles is rather uncomfortable.
(a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

TYPE V

In questions 35 to 40, assertion 'A' is followed by reasons RI and RII. Apply the I and II to 'A' and tick-mark your answers as follows:

- (a) Only I is the reason for A.
(b) Only II is the reason for A.
(c) Both I and II are the reasons for A.
(d) Either I or II is the reason for A.
(e) Neither I nor II is the reason for A.

35. A. The exact date of the arrival of the Monsoon can be predicted these days.

- RI. It always hits India on the same date.
RII. The Meteorological Department is very much advanced.
(a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

36. A. Children are very fond of ice-creams.

- RI. Ice-creams are very nourishing.
RII. They are made from milk.
(a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

37. A. The number of tourists at different tourist centres has not been upto the mark this year.

- RI. With increase in rates, tourism has become rather an expensive affair.
RII. News of explosions, riots and political disturbance have affected tourism.
(a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

38. A. The first thing people want early in the morning is a newspaper

- RI. They expect the world to change overnight every day.
RII. They don't get time to read it afterwards.
(a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

39. A. Men wear no mark to show they are married.

- RI. Marriage does not make much difference to a man's social status.
RII. They like to be mysterious about such affairs.
(a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

40. A. The Football team of country X was not allowed to enter the World Cup Tournaments.

- RI. The team was not upto the mark.
RII. The team had misbehaved in previous tournaments.
(a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

TYPE VI

At the end of the passage given below some conclusions have been

drawn On the basis of the study of the paragraph, mark your answers as under.

- A. Definitely true.
- B. Probably true.
- C. Can't say as the data provided is inadequate.
- D. Probably false.
- E. Definitely false.

In the hot season in India, the sun shines vertically over the Tropic of Cancer, i.e., roughly over the great plains of the Ganges and Brahmaputra so that the air over the plains becomes very hot by about the month of May. At this time, South West Monsoon commences to blow. They bring heavy rains. Monsoon winds prevail over India at different seasons. India depends upon the rain-bearing south-west winds which prevail from about the end of May to the end of September. These winds bring to India about 90% of all the rain that falls.

41. The plains of the Ganges and Brahmaputra have the heaviest rainfall.

A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐

42. The Tropic of Cancer passes through India.

A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐

43. Besides Monsoon, India has other sources of rain too.

A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐

44. The South West Monsoon blows into India from the sea.

A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐

45. India receives the maximum of rain from September to May.

A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐

ANSWERS AND EXPLANATIONS

1. (a) The word only makes the conclusion absolutely right.
2. (c) The conclusion is based on the information that is concerned with a very small part of the whole.
3. (c) The word 'sometimes' relates to very few chances, hence a common conclusion is wrong.
4. (b) The conclusion is based on a general belief and is not very specific, hence long drawn.
5. (b) There could be smokers who were aware of the views hence supported the decision. So the conclusion is long drawn.
6. (d) Sufficient information is lacking.
7. (c) Two examples are not enough for generalisation.
8. (a) The conclusion confirms the statements.
9. (b) They could be shaking hands for some other reason.
10. (c) The conclusion definitely does not follow from the statements.
11. (a) II is not as strong as I.
12. (e) Both lack force.
13. (a) Only the first one is convincing as an argument.
14. (b) The second argument has more force.
15. (c) Both the arguments are strong in their own way.
16. (b) The first argument is only concerned with the trivial aspect of the question.

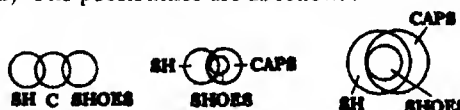
17. (d) He could take either of the decisions.
18. (a) The second one is related to a trivial aspect.
19. (b) The first one is not very convincing.
20. (e) I and II both are statements and not arguments.
21. (b)



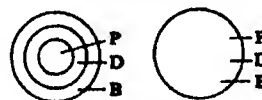
22. (c)



23. (a) Nothing has been stated about the II conclusion.
24. (d) The possibilities are as follows:



25. (e) There are following possibilities:



26. (e) The possibilities are as follows:



27. (a) Since all grapes are sour only the first conclusion follows.
28. (c)
29. (d)
30. (e)
31. (a)
32. (e)
33. (c)
34. (b)
35. (b)
36. (e)
37. (c)
38. (e)
39. (a)
40. (d)
41. C. No information is given regarding the distribution of rain.
42. A. The passage confirms it.
43. A. Obviously, the remaining 10% must have other sources.
44. B. Most probably, since it brings rain.
45. E. No, it is from May to September.

Quantitative Aptitude

1. $3\frac{2}{5} \div ? = \frac{1}{2}$
(a) $\frac{6}{45}$ (b) $\frac{11}{15}$ (c) $4\frac{5}{6}$ (d) $6\frac{4}{5}$ (e) None of these
2. 2% of 35 + 20% of 7.8 + 200% of 4.87 = ?
(a) 64.14 (b) 12 (c) 6.56 (d) 10 (e) None of these
3. $11.6 + 9.28 \div 0.464 - 0.2828 \div 0.07 = ?$
(a) 27.56 (b) 27.2 (c) 9.56 (d) 9.2 (e) None of these
4. A reduction of 20% in the price of sugar would enable a man to buy 1.25 kg more for Rs 25. Find the original price.
(a) Rs 4 (b) Rs 5 (c) Rs 4.50 (d) Rs 5.50 (e) None of these
5. A train covers the first 5 kms of its journey at a speed of 30 km per hour and the next 11 kms at 33 km per hour. Find the average speed of the train for the total distance covered.
(a) 40 km/h (b) 35 km/h (c) 32 km/h (d) 30 km/h (e) None of these
6. A contractor undertook to complete a work in 15 days and he engaged 100 men. After 9 days he found that only $\frac{5}{12}$ of the work could be completed. How many more men should he engage so that work is completed in time.
(a) 80 (b) 90 (c) 100 (d) 110 (e) None of these
7. A man sells 2 articles at Rs 308 each. On one he gained 12% and on the other he lost 12%. Find his gain or loss per cent.
(a) 3% (b) $2\frac{9}{11}\%$ (c) $1\frac{11}{25}\%$ (d) $2\frac{7}{9}\%$ (e) None of these
8. The compound interest on a certain sum at 5% for 2 years is Rs 328. What will be simple interest for that sum at the same rate and for the same period?
(a) Rs 320 (b) Rs 322 (c) Rs 325 (d) Rs 326 (e) None of these
9. The Length, Breadth and Height of a room are in the ratio of 4 : 3 : 2. If the cost of carpeting the floor at Rs 5 per sq m is Rs 240, find the cost of papering the walls at Rs 2.50 per sq m.
(a) Rs 300 (b) Rs 280 (c) Rs 250 (d) Rs 200 (e) None of these
10. 36 : 60 :: 15 : ?
(a) 25 (b) 35 (c) 27 (d) 18 (e) None of these
11. $(19)^2 \times \sqrt{441} = ?$
(a) 8379 (b) 7581 (c) 378 (d) 159201 (e) None of these
12. $\frac{8 \times 14 - 3 \times 6}{3 \times 15 + 1 \times 3} = ?$
(a) $\frac{95}{18}$ (b) $\frac{85}{18}$ (c) $\frac{96}{48}$ (d) $\frac{97}{48}$ (e) None of these
13. 5% of 5% of x = 3; x = ?
(a) 1200 (b) 800 (c) 75 (d) 300 (e) None of these
14. The highest common factor of 70 and 245 is equal to:
(a) 35 (b) 45 (c) 55 (d) 65 (e) None of these
15. What percentage will be 32 paise of Re 1?
(a) 16% (b) 23% (c) 32% (d) 32.5% (e) None of these
16. By selling an article for Rs 54, a man loses $\frac{2}{5}$ of the cost price. What will be his C.P.?
(a) Rs 110 (b) Rs 80 (c) Rs 90 (d) Rs 100 (e) None of these
17. A wire is in the form of a circle of radius 42 cm. Determine the side of the square into which it can be bent.
(a) 33 cm (b) 66 cm (c) 22 cm (d) 44 cm (e) None of these
18. The diameter of a wheel is 1.26 m. How far will it travel in 500 revolutions?
(a) 1980 m (b) 990 m (c) 880 m (d) 1448 m (e) None of these
19. There are three containers of equal capacity. The ratio of milk to water in the first container is 3 : 2, in the second container 7 : 3 and in the third container 11 : 4. If all are mixed, what will be ratio of milk to water in the mixture?
(a) 51 : 39 (b) 61 : 29 (c) 41 : 49 (d) 31 : 59 (e) None of these
20. A fort had provisions for 150 men for 45 days. After 10 days 25 men left the fort. How long will the food last at the same rate?
(a) 24 days (b) 32 days (c) 42 days (d) 40 days (e) None of these
21. Rs 53 are divided among A, B and C in such a way as A gets Rs 7 more than B and B Rs 8 more than C. What will be A's share?
(a) Rs 25 (b) Rs 18 (c) Rs 10 (d) Rs 15 (e) None of these
22. $(242 - 17)^2 - (7 \times 5)^2 = ?$
(a) 65200 (b) 54300 (c) 49400 (d) 44900 (e) None of these
23. $44 \times ? = 625 - 53$
(a) 11 (b) 13 (c) 15 (d) 17 (e) None of these

24. $408.32 - ? = 39053$
 (a) 1779 (b) 1879 (c) 1869 (d) 1789
 (e) None of these
25. $(3)^4 + (2)^4 + 2 \times .25 = ?$
 (a) 79.5 (b) 69.5 (c) 97.5 (d) 96.5
 (e) None of these
26. $? \times 303.5 = 184983.25$
 (a) 609.5 (b) 509.5 (c) 569.5 (d) 659.5
 (e) None of these
27. $1.015 \div 0.05 \times 40 = ?$
 (a) 612 (b) 712 (c) 812 (d) 622
 (e) None of these
28. $2.08 - (0.5)^2 = ?$
 (a) 4.38 (b) 3.46 (c) 2.78 (d) 1.83 (e) None of these
29. $\frac{1}{25}$ of $200 \times 25.5 = ?$
 (a) 102 (b) 201 (c) 184 (d) 204 (e) None of these
30. A person sold a horse at the gain of 15%. Had he bought it for 25% less and sold it for Rs 60 less, he would have made a profit of 32%. Find the cost price of the horse?
 (a) Rs 375 (b) Rs 350 (c) Rs 325 (d) Rs 300
 (e) None of these

ANSWERS AND EXPLANATIONS

1. (d) 2. (b) 3. (a)
4. (b) Reduction of Rs 25 = $\frac{20}{100} \times 25 = \text{Rs } 5$
 \therefore C.P. of 1.25 kg of sugar after reduction = Rs 5
 C.P. of 1 kg of sugar after reduction = $\frac{5}{1.25} = \text{Rs } 4$
 If reduced price is Rs 50, then the original price = Rs 100
 If reduced price is Rs 4, then the original price = $\frac{100}{80} \times 4 = \text{Rs } 5$
5. (c) Average speed = $\frac{\text{Total Distance covered}}{\text{Total time taken}}$
6. (a) Less days more men = 7 : 9
 More work more men = $\frac{5}{12} : \frac{7}{12} :: 100 : ?$
 \therefore Total men = $\frac{9}{7} \times \frac{7}{12} \times \frac{12}{5} \times 100 = 180$ men
 Required men = $180 - 100 = 80$ men
7. (c) C.P. of 1st article = $\frac{100}{(100 + 12)} \times 308 = \text{Rs } 275$
 C.P. of 2nd article = $\frac{100}{(100 - 12)} \times 308 = \text{Rs } 350$
 C.P. of both articles = Rs 275 + Rs 350 = Rs 625
 and S.P. of both articles = $308 \times 2 = 616$
 Loss = $625 - 616 = \text{Rs } 9$
 Loss% = $\frac{9}{625} \times 100 = \frac{36}{25} = 1.44\%$

8. (a)
9. (b) Area of floor = $\frac{\text{Total cost}}{\text{Rate}} = \frac{240}{5} = \text{Rs } 48 \text{ sq m}$
 Length \times Breadth = $4x \times 3x = 48$ or $x = 2$
 \therefore Length = $4 \times 2 = 8 \text{ m}$
 Breadth = $3 \times 2 = 6 \text{ m}$
 Height = $2 \times 2 = 4 \text{ m}$
 Area of four walls = $2(L + B) \times \text{height}$
 = $2(8 + 6) \times 4 = 112 \text{ sq m}$
 Cost of papering the walls at Rs 2.50 per sq m = $112 \times 2.50 = \text{Rs } 280$
10. (a) 11. (b) 12. (e) Ans $\frac{94}{48}$ 13. (a)
14. (a) 15. (c)
16. (c) Let C.P. = Rs x
 $\therefore x - \frac{2x}{5} = 54$
 $5x - 2x = 270$
 $3x = 270$ or $x = \frac{270}{3} = 90$
17. (b) $4x$ side of the square = circumference of the circle of radius 42 cm
 $4x = 2\pi r$ or $x = 2 \times \frac{22}{7} \times \frac{42}{4} = 66 \text{ cm}$
18. (a) One revolution = circumference of wheel = $2\pi r$ (r = radius = half of diameter)
 500 revolutions = $500 \times 2 \times \frac{22}{7} \times \frac{1.26}{2}$
 = 1980 m
19. (b) Milk after mixing = $\frac{3}{5} + \frac{7}{10} + \frac{11}{15} = \frac{61}{30}$
 Water after mixing = $\frac{2}{5} + \frac{3}{10} + \frac{4}{15} = \frac{29}{30}$
 Required ratio = $\frac{61}{30} : \frac{29}{30}$ or 61 : 29
20. (c) Remaining days = $45 - 10 = 35$
 Remaining men = $150 - 25 = 125$
 150 men have provisions for = 35 days
 125 men have provisions for = $\frac{35 \times 150}{125} = 42$ days
21. (a) 22. (c)
23. (b) 24. (a)
25. (c) 26. (a)
27. (c) 28. (d)
29. (d)
30. (a) Let C.P. = Rs 100
 \therefore S.P. = Rs 115
 2nd C.P. = Rs 75, Profit = 32%
 \therefore 2nd S.P. = $\frac{75 \times 132}{100} = \text{Rs } 99$
 Difference in two S.P.'s = Rs 115 - 99 = Rs 16
 If difference is Rs 16 then C.P. = Rs 100
 If difference is Rs 60 then C.P. = $\frac{100}{16} \times 60 = \text{Rs } 375$

ENGLISH LANGUAGE

★ In the following sentences (1 to 10) there is an error in one part of each sentence. Find out the error. In case you don't find any error, the answer is 5.

1. Profit is still (1) considered for more (2) important than a clean, (3) wholesome environment (4). No error (5).

2. I, along with (1) my friends are going (2) to the grand auction (3) of old paintings being held (4) in the city Hall. No error (5).

3. Those who bemoan the decline of moral (1) standards often fail to see (2) the link between socially disruptive processes (3) and the ongoing economic and political development (4). No error (5).

4. Nature has great powers (1) of regeneration but human beings (2) have even greatest (3) ability to destroy (4). No error (5).

5. What hurts (1) the poor countries more is that (2) some of them do not have (3) the money to buy anti-pollution technologies (4). No error (5).

6. Surprised to find (1) the main gate locked, he was about to return (2) when a voice from (3) the other side demanded to know (4) his identity. No error (5).

7. Nirad Babu says his vocation (1) has been to search for the (2) truth and not be satisfied with (3) convenient theories biased on falsehood (4). No error (5).

8. The stereo-typed view (1) is that Western women have (2) rich husbands and sit comfortably at (3) home all day or go for shopping (4) in their own cars. No error (5).

9. The remedy lies (1) in promoting values of humanism (2) and democracy so as to combat (3) the oncoming brand of fascism (4). No error (5).

10. Her fascinating stories (1) are so captivating that even after (2) finishing the book, one is tempted (3) to start over again (4). No error (5).

★ Find out the correct meaning of the following idioms from the four alternatives given below each idiom:

11. *to give up the ghost*

- (a) to die
- (b) to suffer
- (c) to become rational
- (d) to fight evil forces

12. *to spill the beans*

- (a) to reveal (secret) information
- (b) to talk irrelevant
- (c) to misbehave
- (d) to keep secrets

13. *to run amok/amuck*

- (a) to run a race
- (b) to run about in frenzy
- (c) to run to somebody's help
- (d) to feel exhausted

14. *to take umbrage (at)*

- (a) be pleased
- (b) be satisfied
- (c) be offended
- (d) to feel depressed

15. *gift of the gab*

- (a) ability to impress others
- (b) ability to make friends
- (c) ability to perform histrionics
- (d) ability to speak fluently

★ By choosing the appropriate word, fill in the blanks of the following sentences:

16. This being so, a change of priorities is called ...

- (a) into
- (b) up
- (c) back
- (d) for

17. at the State ...

- (a) meeting
- (b) fund
- (c) deliberation
- (d) level

18. the Centre cannot bring ... this change by itself.

- (a) in
- (b) about
- (c) forward
- (d) for

19. that is why it is ... that the States should

- (a) must
- (b) essential
- (c) important
- (d) inevitable

20. be ... to take a fresh look

- (a) persuaded
- (b) forced
- (c) convinced
- (d) warned

21. at their educational ...

- (a) practices
- (b) policies
- (c) programmes
- (d) plans

22. but even ... the priorities are changed

- (a) though
- (b) thus
- (c) therefore
- (d) if

23. as they ... have to be

- (a) clearly
- (b) candidly
- (c) obviously
- (d) directly

24. the overall shortage of funds

- (a) will
- (b) would
- (c) should
- (d) might

25. continue to be a crippling in any case.

- (a) factor
- (b) constraint
- (c) fact
- (d) reality

★ In the following questions (26 and 27) the first and the last parts of the passage are numbered 1 and 6. The rest of the passage is split into four parts and named A, B, C and D. These four parts are not given in their proper order. Read the sentences and find out which of the four combinations is correct.

26. 1. Many people decry happiness as an end

A. but it is quite another to treat the general happi-

OBJECTIVE-TYPE QUESTION

- ness as a thing of no account
B but one may suspect them of sour grapes
C it is one thing to forgo personal happiness for a public end
D both for themselves and for others
6. Yet this is often done in the name of some supposed heroism.

(a) DBCA
(b) DCBA
(c) CADB
(d) BDCA

27. 1. 'There would be no more escapes

A. but there was something else
B. a kind of tired happiness
C. no more flights down the white streets toward the Seine
D. and the comforting feel of time, there at my heels

6. Like a beast now gentled and familiar.

(a) CBAD
(b) CADB
(c) DACB
(d) CABD

*** Out of the four alternatives given below each word, choose the one which best expresses the meaning of the given word:**

28. effete

(a) feeble
(b) sick
(c) injured
(d) affected

29. largesse

(a) gifts given
(b) charity
(c) donation
(d) aid

30. mystique

(a) reputation
(b) fame
(c) popularity
(d) admirable quality

31. critique

(a) satire
(b) condemnation
(c) invective
(d) critical analysis

32. marionette

(a) plastic toy
(b) automatic toy

(c) puppet
(d) show-piece

*** Choose the word opposite in meaning to the given word:**

33. brazen

(a) helpful
(b) delicious
(c) innocent
(d) respectful

34. reticent

(a) informative
(b) educative
(c) communicative
(d) lucrative

35. languid

(a) fast
(b) energetic
(c) ferocious
(d) smart

36. bizarre

(a) habitual
(b) usual
(c) spiritual
(d) moral

37. affinity

(a) enmity
(b) aggression
(c) antipathy
(d) hostility

*** Choose the definition that best expresses the meaning of the word in italics in the following sentences:**

38. China is still being ruled by the *gerontocracy*.

(a) government by aristocrats
(b) government by old men
(c) government by workers
(d) one-party rule

39. Dr Salim Ali was an authority on *ornithology*.

(a) scientific study of animals
(b) scientific study of insects
(c) scientific study of birds
(d) scientific study of earth

40. *Surrealism* brought a revolution in the world of poetry and painting.

(a) art movement of Renaissance
(b) art movement expressing the subconscious mind in images
(c) name of a classical dance
(d) name of a master-piece in literature

41. Wordsworth believed in the doctrine of *pantheism*.

(a) doctrine that everything is God

(b) follower of religious dogmas
(c) doctrine of rationalism
(d) doctrine of idol-worship

42. Some brute invaders turned *iconoclasts* in the Middle Ages.

(a) breaker of images used in religion
(b) worshipper of idols
(c) maker of temples
(d) lover of fine arts

ANSWERS

1. (2) 'far more' is the correct usage because 'far' preceding comparative 'more' means 'considerably' or 'very much'.
2. (2) 'am going' because the principal/main subject is 'I' whereas 'friends' are subordinate or secondary.
3. (1) decline as noun is followed by the preposition 'in'—the 'decline in moral' is the correct usage.
4. (3) 'greater' instead of greatest because the comparison is between two agents—nature and human beings.
5. (2) 'most' instead of 'more' because the degree of 'hurt' is the highest among the poor countries as compared to developed and developing countries. Moreover the comparison is among an unspecified number of countries.
6. (5) No error.
7. (4) 'based on' is the correct usage.
8. (4) 'go shopping' like 'go hunting', 'go fishing' etc is the correct usage because preposition 'for' in such expressions is redundant/superfluous.
9. (2) 'the values' because 'the' as definite article refers to unique values of humanism and democracy.
10. (4) the correct expression is 'to start all over again'.
11. (a) 12. (a) 13. (b) 14. (c)
15. (d) 16. (d) 17. (d) 18. (b)
19. (c) 20. (a) 21. (d) 22. (d)
23. (c) 24. (b) 25. (a) 26. (a)
27. (d) 28. (a) 29. (a) 30. (d)
31. (d) 32. (c) 33. (d) 34. (c)
35. (b) 36. (b) 37. (c) 38. (b)
39. (c) 40. (b) 41. (a) 42. (a)

GENERAL AWARENESS

The following questions were asked in the Probationary Officers Examination (Lucknow Board) held recently. We are grateful to Mr Ajmer Singh of Chandigarh and Ms Manju Manchanda of Gurgaon for sending these questions to us.

* Tick-mark the correct answer out of the choices given.

1. Andres Gomez has recently won which of the following championships?
 - (a) Wimbledon
 - (b) U.S. Open
 - (c) Australian Open
 - ☒ (d) French Open
 - (e) None of these
2. Suva is the capital of:
 - (a) Malaysia
 - (b) Mauritius
 - (c) Maldives
 - ☒ (d) Fiji
3. Rex Harrison was connected with:
 - ☒ (a) motion pictures
 - (b) literature
 - (c) social work
 - (d) singing
4. 'A Passage to India' is written by:
 - (a) Nirad C. Chaudhary
 - ☒ (b) E.M. Forster
 - (c) Mulk Raj Anand
 - (d) Charles Dickens
 - (e) None of these
5. What was the amount of capital receipts according to 1990-91 Budget?
 - (a) 7206 crore
 - (b) 12644 crore
 - (c) 14299 crore
 - ☒ (d) 27391 crore
 - (e) None of these
6. Which of the following exists in gas form under normal temperature?
 - (a) Mercury
 - (b) Zinc
 - (c) Plutonium
 - ☒ (d) Bromine
 - (e) None of these
7. Monica Seles is a:
 - ☒ (a) Tennis player
 - (b) Actress
 - (c) Chess player
 - (d) Badminton player
 - (e) Volleyball player
8. Chakma refugees problem is connected with which country?
 - ☒ (a) Bangladesh
 - (b) Bhutan
 - (c) Sri Lanka
 - (d) Nepal
 - (e) Pakistan
9. Where is Balasore Missile range situated?
 - ☒ (a) Orissa
 - (b) Andhra Pradesh
 - (c) Karnataka
 - (d) Kerala
 - (e) None of these
10. Which of the following State does not benefit from Konkan Railway Project?
 - (a) Goa
 - (b) Maharashtra
 - (c) Karnataka
 - ☒ (d) Kerala
 - ☒ (e) None of these
11. A legal penal has been set up to adjudicate river water dispute between Karnataka and Maharashtra. Name the river under dispute?
 - ☒ (a) Cauvery
 - (b) Tapti
 - (c) Godavari
 - (d) Satluj
 - (e) None of these
12. On which day is the World Environment Day celebrated?
 - (a) June 1
 - (b) April 22
 - (c) May 7
 - ☒ (d) May 27
 - ☒ (e) June 5
13. Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar Award is given by:
 - ☒ (a) Council of Scientific and Industrial Research
 - (b) Indian Space Research Organisation
 - (c) Science and Technology Council
 - (d) Indian Council for Agricultural Research
14. 1988 Jawahar Lal Nehru Award for International Understanding has been given to:
 - (a) Nelson Mandela
 - ☒ (b) Yasser Arafat
 - (c) Mikhail Gorbachov
 - (d) Perez de Cuellar
 - (e) None of these
15. Which of the following statements is true in respect to Centre-State financial relations?
 - (a) amount given by Centre is the only source of income of States
 - (b) States can by-pass Centre while taking foreign loans
 - ☒ (c) States cannot levy income tax
 - (d) States can claim 100% share in excise duty on goods produced in the State
 - (e) None of these
16. From which of the following constituencies did Rajiv Gandhi win in the 1989 Lok Sabha elections?
 - (a) Fatehpur
 - (b) Jalandhar
 - ☒ (c) Amethi
 - (d) Bilaspur
 - (e) None of these
17. Which of the following was not agreed upon by President Mikhail Gorbachov of USSR at the Big-2 summit held recently in USA?
 - (a) Trade pack
 - (b) Reduction of nuclear arms
 - (c) World Peace
 - ☒ (d) Joining of Germany to NATO Alliance
 - (e) None of these
18. Group of 77 is an organisation of:
 - (a) Third World countries
 - ☒ (b) NAM
 - ☒ (c) Developed countries
 - (d) European countries
 - (e) None of these
19. In June '90 Prime Minister

OBJECTIVE-TYPE QUESTIONS

V.P. Singh attended which of the following meetings?

- (a) UN Security Council meet
- (b) Conference of Free Trade Union
- (c) G-15 meet of 15 developing countries of Asia, Africa and Latin America
- (d) ILO meeting
- (e) None of these

20. Which of the following sporting events is to be held in China in September '90?

- (a) Olympic
- (b) Asian Games
- (c) World Cup Hockey
- (d) World Federation Games

21. Tehri Dam is located in:

- (a) U.P.
- (b) M.P.
- (c) Bihar
- (d) Andhra Pradesh

22. Union government is considering granting Statehood to which of the following Union Territories?

- (a) Lakshadweep
- (b) Andaman Nicobar
- (c) Chandigarh
- (d) Delhi

23. Name the movies to win the 1990 Oscar award in the best motion picture category?

- (a) My Left foot
- (b) Rain Man
- (c) Driving Miss Daisy
- (d) Dick Tracy
- (e) None of these

24. Who has won the 1989 Dada Saheb Phalke award?

- (a) Raj Kapoor
- (b) Lata Mangeshkar
- (c) Ashok Kumar
- (d) B. Nagi Reddy

25. Which of the following is India's first indigenously built Missile boat?

- (a) Chakra
- (b) Agni
- (c) Chitra
- (d) Vibhuti

26. The final of the 1990 Thomas Cup Badminton Championships was held between which two countries?

- (a) China-Malaysia
- (b) China-Korea
- (c) Malaysia-Japan
- (d) Korea-Malaysia

27. Who is the present Chief

Minister of Haryana?

- (a) Om Prakash Chautala
- (b) Banarsi Dass Gupta
- (c) Sampat Singh
- (d) Dhanik Lal Mandal
- (e) None of these

28. Who is the President of the Janata Dal?

- (a) V.P. Singh
- (b) R.K. Hegde
- (c) Devi Lal
- (d) S.R. Bommai

29. Who has won the Indira Gold Cup International Volleyball tournament held recently in Hyderabad?

- (a) U.S.S.R.
- (b) Korea
- (c) Japan
- (d) India

30. Which of the following is not a Central American country?

- (a) Panama
- (b) Nicaragua
- (c) El Salvador
- (d) Guatemala
- (e) Peru

31. Tiananmen Square is in:

- (a) Japan
- (b) Korea
- (c) China
- (d) Indonesia

32. Which of the following States does not touch the border with Pakistan?

- (a) Punjab
- (b) Rajasthan
- (c) Gujarat
- (d) Himachal Pradesh

33. What per cent of total area of the earth is covered by oceans?

- (a) 70
- (b) 60
- (c) 50
- (d) 90

34. Which country had recently accused India of Restrictive Trade Practices?

- (a) U.S.A.
- (b) Nepal
- (c) Pakistan
- (d) Sri Lanka

35. Which of the following is not a part of joint communique statement issued by Nepal and India?

- (a) Rs 35 crore aid from India to Nepal
- (b) Indian labourers will be required to obtain work

permit in Nepal

- (c) Primary Nepali goods will be free from custom duty in India
- (d) Recognition and free flow of Indian currency in Nepal

36. Which of the following changes have been incorporated in the 1990-91 Budget with regard to Gift tax?

- (a) Gift tax has been abolished
- (b) The amount that can be given tax free has been fixed at Rs one lakh per year
- (c) The person receiving the gift will have to pay gift tax
- (d) The rate of gift tax has been fixed at 5%

37. Soft drinks containing which of the following products are not allowed to be sold in India?

- (a) Fruit pulp
- (b) Citric Acid
- (c) Brominated Vegetable Oil
- (d) Permitted artificial colours

38. Who is the Governor of Tamil Nadu?

- (a) Dr P.C. Alexander
- (b) Dhanik Lal Mandal
- (c) Sujit Singh Barnala
- (d) Girish C. Saxena

39. Mr Kuldip Nayar is India's High Commissioner to which country?

- (a) UK
- (b) Canada
- (c) Pakistan
- (d) Australia

40. Which of the following relates to a cyclone?

- (a) It is a seasonal wind
- (b) It is a form of cloud
- (c) It is a region of low atmospheric pressure in the Centre and high pressure around
- (d) It is a form of fog

ANSWERS

- | | | | |
|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| 1. (d) | 2. (d) | 3. (a) | 4. (b) |
| 5. (d) | 6. (d) | 7. (a) | 8. (a) |
| 9. (a) | 10. (e) | 11. (a) | 12. (e) |
| 13. (a) | 14. (b) | 15. (c) | 16. (c) |
| 17. (d) | 18. (c) | 19. (c) | 20. (b) |
| 21. (a) | 22. (d) | 23. (c) | 24. (b) |
| 25. (d) | 26. (a) | 27. (e) | 28. (d) |
| 29. (a) | 30. (e) | 31. (c) | 32. (d) |
| 33. (a) | 34. (a) | 35. (b) | 36. (c) |
| 37. (c) | 38. (c) | 39. (a) | 40. (c) |

Descriptive Questions

The Descriptive Paper containing questions on unusual topics which require ability to think deeply has been made compulsory in some competitive examinations. In response to our readers' suggestion, we have decided to publish a special feature on such questions as often as feasible.

We publish below short answers, as required by the examiners, to the questions (1 to 4) in the Descriptive Paper set for Recruitment of Specialist Officers held on June 24, 1990, by BSRB, Delhi. We thank Mr Amitava Siddhanta of Serampore for sending us the question paper.

Questions 5 and 6, answers to which are also given below, were set in the Bank Clerks Examination held by BSRB, Jaipur recently. This paper was sent to us by Mr M Veereswara Rao of Delhi.

Q. 1. "If we want to have real democracy, our effort should be to have 100 per cent literacy." Give three arguments in favour and three arguments against this statement.

Ans. Arguments in Favour of the View.

1. Democracy requires adequate understanding of the implications, various practices and processes of democracy. Ignorant, uneducated masses are incapable of participating in these processes actively and with full understanding.

2. Democracy in the USA and Britain is a marked success because of the 100 per cent literacy. Indian democracy suffers from several distortions because the majority of the people are illiterate.

3. True democracy can serve as a sure guarantee against arbitrary rule, autocracy and unbridled exercise of political power only if there is 100 per cent literacy which makes people aware of their rights, responsibilities and of

the importance of their vote.

Arguments Against the View

1. It would be unfair to make a country wait for a fully democratic set-up until there is 100 per cent literacy. In a country like India with a huge population it would take decades to make all the people literate.

2. The percentage of literacy in India is about 40, and yet the political maturity they have displayed during elections has won worldwide appreciation. This shows that the various processes of democracy can be understood even by people who are not educated.

3. Democracy demands discipline, tolerance, mutual regard, common sense and honesty of purpose. These virtues can be found even among uneducated people most of whom are free from the taint of corruption which has badly affected literate politicians.

Q. 2. "There is an alarming increase in the number of applicants for jobs in banks, public sector organisations, etc." Explain the causes in regard to the above statement.

Ans. There is indeed a rush of candidates for clerical and other posts in government offices, banks and public sector organisations. The major factors in this regard are:

One. Young graduates seek security of service, easy work that would not involve hard labour but would ensure regular receipt of salary. On the other hand, private employment is uncertain, with the ever-present risk of arbitrary termination of service and consequent unemployment. Hard work is demanded and only limited periods of leave and few other facilities are allowed.

Two. Clerical and other work in banks mean fixed hours of work, many holidays, constantly increasing amenities such as housing, medical aid, and pay-scales. This is not so in the private sector. Private employers make their

employees work for long hours; they are tough task-masters and do not allow the staff to take liberties or remain absent from duty without permission.

Three. Public sector enterprises, such as banks, generally let workers' unions be formed and arrange labour participation in management. So the employees are able to go on strike now and then to secure more pay and bonus. Private sector employers, on the other hand, take steps to ensure regularity of production and they seldom hesitate to create splits in trade unions and take strict action, including dismissal from service, the series of laws designed to safeguard labour's interests notwithstanding.

Q. 3. Some people feel that our schools should impart such education as would make our students real human beings. Substantiate your views by giving instances from your own knowledge.

Ans. There is no denying that our present education system is defective. It turns out graduates whose mental faculties are not adequately developed and who lack even sound character. Most of them are poor specimens of humanity; they have little regard for moral values and are unfit to face the harsh realities of the world. So they prove failures in life. What the country needs is not ill-equipped youth lacking the basic qualities of human beings but people who have the requisite qualities that would make them decent, disciplined members of society, with full consideration for others, the qualities of tolerance, mercy, compassion, dependability and self-reliance.

Education is not merely memorising some facts, cramming answers from help-books and cheap "guides". The youth must learn to cohere and coordinate facts, learn to discriminate between good and evil. Education must instruct youth to serve fellow men instead of becoming self-seeking and pleasure-loving. What is needed is full and continuous development of integrated

human personality.

It is imperative that our youth be imbued with the highest ideals. Schools and colleges should be training grounds where real knowledge is imparted, where human bodies and brains are cared for, where their faculties are sharpened and where character is moulded so that they can help promote peace, harmony and social welfare.

Q. 4. Suppose we do not have any script for any of the languages to express our views. Give various possible consequences (not fewer than three).

Ans. 1. The first human beings on earth had no language and of course no script. The human race in ancient days was not only languageless; it did not inherit the gift or the power of speech either. Script enables a nation to express and convey its thoughts to others in writing. Without a script a language would be merely spoken, never having the facility of putting on record, for use of posterity, its thoughts and its prose and poetry. It is the script that enables writers, poets and dramatists to write down their thoughts for the benefit of his race, and even other races if the quality of the works is unique.

2. There would be no short stories, novels, plays, etc., because unless there is a script, no plays would be available to people (Oral dialogues cannot be memorised by everyone). As a result, a nation would have no literature of its own. To that extent, it would be poorer. Nor would there be any books for school and college students. Only instruction through speech and words would be possible. How will examinations and tests be held? There would be no answers to enable an examiner to assess a candidate's worth.

3. No less important, the nation would have no history, no record of its achievements, no books of reference, nothing. It would be an empty world, shorn of its past and present; mere words cannot become a permanent record. Even ordinary people will not be able to convey their thoughts to friends and relations in other cities and lands. Without a script even communication might become difficult. It is the miracle of language and script that has enabled

great saints and sages to write epics of permanent value.

Q. 5. The performance of girls is better than that of boys in most examinations. Give two or three reasons.

Ans. This statement is to be accepted with qualifications. The fact is that girls' performance is better in some, not most examinations. However, the reasons for this feat, wherever it is evident, are the following.

1. Girl students are more serious about their studies, their home work, their class attendance (boys frequently miss classes and play truant).

2. Boys have many diversions; avenues of spending, or rather wasting, precious time. They are often guilty of indiscipline, defiance of their teachers and parents; many boys take to drugs (it is only rarely that girls take to drugs, though there are a few cases of girls falling victims to drugs and liquor).

3. Studies have shown that boys generally are not conscientious regarding their responsibility towards their parents, especially when the parents are rich and the children have generous pocket money.

4. Moreover, only such girls go to colleges and universities as are earnest about their studies; on the other hand, boys are sent to college to get a degree somehow, even if they are dullards and adopt unfair means. They want to secure a degree or diploma so that they may get a job somewhere.

5. Many girls of today are eager to qualify themselves for good jobs and build careers; the aim of becoming self-reliant is becoming common among them. In these hard times, intelligent girls realise that if they are to maintain a good standard of living after marriage, they must take up service somewhere to supplement the income of their husbands. Well-educated parents go all out to encourage their daughters to study hard to be able to stand on their own feet in all contingencies. Girls of poor families wish to serve their aged fathers and mothers by becoming earning hands. Their resolve to do well in studies and enhance their usefulness is even greater when they know their parents cannot give good dowry in

marriage. So they acquire high educational qualifications to make dowry avoidable.

Q. 6. "In cases of bribery the person giving bribe should be punished, not the person taking it." What is your view. Argue.

Ans. There are of course two parties to an act of bribery; who is more to blame is a debatable question. In my view, both parties are guilty and should be punished in accordance with the law of the land. When a person wishing to get some work done through a government office, say a licence, permit, sanction for a house plan or a water or electricity connection, finds that the relevant file does not move, he is compelled to bribe the greedy office concerned. Without a bribe he would not get the requisite permit or connection. Those who advise against giving any bribe and go without the facility sought (say of water or electricity) live in an unrealistic world. The practice of giving bribes as "speed money" and palm greasing has become unavoidable.

It is easy to give advice on moral grounds and contend that the bribe giver promotes an evil habit. But merely punishing the bribe giver without taking the requisite corrective actions to make the administration free from corruption and ensuring a clean administration, would be futile. The real remedy is to eliminate corrupt men from the administration, ensure quick disposal of public business and avoid all types of delay. It is delay in the disposal of business that breeds corruption. The important thing is to create an atmosphere where the bribe giver and the bribe taker are both condemned. But corrupt men flourish and become prominent social and political figures, even industrial giants.

The punishment to people found guilty of taking bribes is seldom deterrent; they escape scot-free by employing top lawyers who find loopholes in the prosecution case. When the entire system reeks with corruption and graft, it is, I think, unfair to single out the bribe giver. If there were no bribe takers, or greedy people who are ever ready to accept bribes even for petty work, there would be no bribe givers.

THE EXAMINER'S GUESS QUESTIONS

Q. Among the SAARC countries which country has the highest debt burden as per the 1989-90 report of World Bank?

Ans. India (\$ 77.428 billion). The debt service ratio is estimated at 26.4 in 1989 and projected at 26.8 in 1990.

Q. Where was the annual economic summit of the seven major industrial countries held in 1990?

Ans. Houston, Texas, USA.

Q. Which day is celebrated as the World Population Day?

Ans. July 10

Q. As per the Fortune Magazine who is the world's richest person?

Ans. The Sultan of Brunei. However, the magazine excludes royal families and heads of State from its list on the ground that their fortunes were not based on their economic ability. Hence, its list of richest men is headed by Yoshiaki Tsutsumi, the Japanese land, railway and resorts magnate.

Q. Which port is the world's busiest container port?

Ans. Singapore. Previously it was Hong Kong.

Q. Who is Viswanathan Anand?

Ans. He is the 20-year-old chess player who has become the first Indian and only the second Asian to qualify for the candidates matches.

Q. Name the Indian boy who bagged a gold medal at the prestigious International Mathematics Olympiad held in Beijing, China?

Ans. Rina Panigrahy, a student of D.G. Ruparel College at Bombay.

Q. Who headed the high powered committee to review the agricultural policies and programmes?

Ans. Mr Bhanu Pratap Singh.

The committee has recommended the agriculture be given the same facilities and incentives as industry.

Q. Name the world famous Dutch artist whose death centenary was celebrated in 1990?

Ans. Vincent Van Gogh.

Q. What world record was made by Kapil Dev while playing the first test match against England at Lord's on July 30, 1990?

Ans. Kapil Dev hit four successive sixes. The bowler was Hemmings.

Q. Which SAARC country has abolished capital punishment?

Ans. Nepal.

Q. What is Gadgil formula?

Ans. Gadgil formula is the formula regarding central assistance to States.

Q. Who heads the commission of inquiry to probe the death of independent candidate Amir Singh in the Meham assembly constituency in Haryana in May 1990?

Ans. Mr Justice D.P. Madan, a retired Judge of the Supreme Court.

Q. What were the points of discord between Kuwait and Iraq which caused tension between the two countries and ultimately resulted in invasion of Kuwait by Iraq?

Ans. Iraq demanded the Kuwait should write-off the (Gulf war) debts and relinquish some of its oil rich territory. Kuwait did not agree to it.

Q. Which Indian company has found its name in the 'Fortune's global 500 listing'?

Ans. The Oil and Natural Gas Commission (ONGC). It is ranked 7th among the "most profitable" industrial corporations of the world.

In the overall appraisal on profits and sales, ONGC has been placed 41st among 500 companies.

ONGC occupies the first rank in terms of net worth, valued at Rs 9,024 crore. In terms of assets ONGC is the largest company in India. The net fixed assets of the company for the year 1988-89 have been Rs 16,160.83 crore.

Q. Who is the Chef-de-Mission of the Indian contingent for the Beijing Asian Games?

Ans. Mr Mohd Aslam Khan.

Q. Under which Article of the Indian Constitution the Inter-State Council has been formed, as recommended by the Sarkaria Commission?

Ans. Article 236.

Q. Name the international human rights organisation which was recently allowed by the Indian Government to visit J & K and Punjab?

Ans. Amnesty International.

Q. Why has been Liberia in the news during July-August, 1990?

Ans. A civil war has broken in Liberia resulting in large scale killing and destruction. Liberia is situated on the north-western coast of Africa. Its capital is Monrovia.

Q. What percentage of jobs, in services under the Central Government and Public Undertakings, has the Government decided to reserve for socially and educationally backward classes?

Ans. 27 per cent. The decision has been taken on the basis of the Mandal Commission report. The reservation would be applicable, in the first phase, to castes which are common on the lists prepared by the Mandal Commission and several States.

SPORTS

GAMES

298-member squad for Asian Games

Two-ninety-eight-member Indian contingent including 239 sports-persons and 59 officials, will participate in the Beijing Asiad.

India will participate in 20 disciplines: athletics, archery, cycling, canoeing, gymnastics, golf, judo, shooting, tennis, table tennis, wrestling, weightlifting, yachting, hockey, kabaddi, volleyball, football (men), swimming, rowing and badminton. Swimming and rowing championships will be held outside Beijing.

Mr Mohd Aslam Khan, Uttar Pradesh Minister of Sports and Forests, will be the Chef-de-Mission of the Indian contingent.

ATHLETICS

28th All-India Inter-State meet

Three meet records tumbled on the second day of the three-day 28th All-India Inter-State athletic meet at Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium, New Delhi on July 31.

The meet also witnessed a five-year-old national record in the 20-km walk, standing in the name of Chand Ram since 1985, go overboard when Charan Singh Rathi clocked 1 hr 25 mts 48 secs which was 1 mt 11.5 secs better than the previous record.

On the concluding day, two national, four meet records and a clean sweep by the West Bengal girls in the 10 km walk were the highlights. Rosa Kutty not only erased the old 800 metres mark but also qualified for the Beijing Asian, with a new record of 2 mts 25.74 secs. The Kerala girls also qualified for the Asian Games when they clocked 3 mts 39.32 secs in 4 x 400 metre race which was much better than the qualifying mark of 3 mts 41.5 secs.

29th All-India Open Athletic Meet

Indian Railways with 157 points won the men's team championship and

with 115 points the women's team championship titles.

The meet was held at the Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium, New Delhi from July 20 to July 22.

Singapore Open Track and Field Championship

Indian athletes struck gold coming out toppers in five of the six events they participated in on the concluding day of the Singapore Open Track and Field championships.

The performance of Indian athletes was creditable and encouraging considering the small contingent the country had sent to the meet.

Malaysia, which fielded a large contingent, topped the medal list with a total tally of 20 including seven golds, eight silvers and five bronze.

In all fifteen countries including China and Australia participated in the meet.

The following is the medals tally:

Country	Gold	Silver	Bronze
Malaysia	7	8	5
Thailand	6	4	1
India	6	2	0
Australia	4	3	4
S. Korea	3	1	1
Indonesia	3	1	0
Philippines	2	3	1
Hong Kong	2	0	2
Singapore	1	6	9
China	1	5	5
Britain	1	0	0
Nepal	0	2	4
Taipei	0	2	2

BADMINTON

Malaysian Open

Commonwealth Champion Rashid Sidek won the Malaysian open badminton title by beating fellow Malaysian Foo Kok Keong 18-17, 15-6 at Kuala Lumpur on July 14.

Top seed Huang Hua (China) won the women's singles, defeating unseed-

ed South Korean Lee Jung Mei 11-3, 7-11, 11-1.

Other results

Men's doubles: Park Joo Bong and Kim Moon Soo (S. Korea).

Women's doubles: Chung Myung Hee and Chung So Young (S. Korea).

Mixed doubles: Park Joo Bong and Chung Myung Hee (S. Korea).

Indonesian Open Championship

Indonesia's Ardy Wiranata exploited an seven-year age difference to the full yesterday to overcome compatriot Eddy Kurniawan 15-10, 15-5 in the Indonesian Open badminton final.

In the women's singles final, South Korean Lee Young Suck won the title.

BASKETBALL

Women Championships

Defending champion USA scored a close 88-78 win over Yugoslavia to keep their title in the 11th World Women's Championships at Kuala Lumpur on July 22. Cuba scored a 83-81 win over Czechoslovakia to take the third place.

BODY-BUILDING

Asian Championship

India's Prem Chand Dogra won the first Asian Pro-Am Body-building championships at Singapore on July 9. Han Dong Ki (S. Korea) finished second.

CHESS

Qualifying Tournament for World Championship

The 20-year-old Indian grandmaster, Viswanathan Anand, is the first Indian and only the second Asian to qualify for the candidates matches leading to the World Championship, at Manila on July 14.

Anand follows on the heels of Filipino G.M. Eugene Torre, who became the first Asian qualifier to the 'candida-

tes' in 1982.

Anand will play Dreev: India's grandmaster Viswanathan Anand will play against Dreev (USSR) in the candidates World Chess matches scheduled to be held in January-February 1991.

The pairings were made by the weighted average ratings of the players qualified from the Inter-Zonal championship.

Timman of Netherlands was ranked No. 1.

The following are the pairings:

No. 1 Timman (Netherlands) *vs* No. 14 Huebner (USSR). No. 2 Ivanchuk (USSR) *vs* No. 13 Yudasin (USSR). No. 3 Gelfand (USSR) *vs* No. 12 Nikolic (Yugoslavia). No. 4 Korchnogk (Swiz) *vs* No. 11 Sax (Hungary). No. 5 N. Short (England) *vs* No. 10 Speel Man (England). No. 6 Dolmatov (USSR) *vs* No. 9 Zufupov (USSR). No. 7 Dreev (USSR) *vs* No. 8 V. Anand (India).

Women's National Championship

Anupama Abhyankar (Maharashtra) won the 16th National Women "A" Chess Championships at Vijayawada on July 4. Though Bhagyashree Thipsay, another international master of Maharashtra, scored equal points (10.5), in the tie-break system, Anupama was declared champion of the tournament.

CRICKET

England-New Zealand Series

Fast bowler Devon Malcolm wrecked New Zealand's hopes as England won their first cricket series at home after five years, at Birmingham on July 10. He grabbed five for 46 as New Zealand were tumbled out for 230 in their second innings to give England victory by 114 in the third and deciding test.

Scores:

England: 435 and 158.

New Zealand: 249 and 230.

England-India One-day Internationals

First Match: Excellent knocks by Sanjay Manjrekar (82) and skipper Azharuddin (55 not out) helped India beat England by six wickets in the first one-day international cricket match at Headingley on July 18.

Scores:

England: 229 in 54.3 overs.

India: 233 for 4 in 53 overs.

Second match: India won the Texaco Trophy when they registered a five-wicket victory over England in the second and last one-day international match at Nottingham on July 20. Needing 282 to win off the allotted 55 overs, India emerged winners with two overs to spare.

Scores:

England: 281.

India: 282 for 5.

England-India Test Series

1st Test Match: England achieved their first victory over India in five years as they howled India out for 224, in their second innings, at Lord's, to win the match by 247 runs.

The highlight of the match was England Captain Graham Gooch's 333. Thus Gooch became the sixth highest individual scorer in Test Cricket behind Gary Sobers (365 not out), Len Hutton (364), Hanif Mohammad (337), Walter Hammond (336 not out) and Don Bradman (334 not out).

Kapil Dev Sets World Record: Kapil Dev hit four successive sixes in India's first innings to make a world record. No player had ever previously hit four successive sixes in a Test over.

Scores:

England: 653 for 4 declared and 272 for 4 declared.

India: 454 and 224.

FENCING

World Championship

Italy's swordsmen ended the World Fencing Championship in triumph when its men's team beat France to take the gold medal, bringing to eight the number of medals won during the championship at Lyon on July 16. In team event Germany beat Hungary 9-7 to win the final.

TENNIS

Asian Nations Championship

Thailand crushed South Korea 3-0 in the final of the eighth Asian Nations Tennis Championships for the

Ghaffar Cup at Kuala Lumpur on July 14.

World Tournament

Gabriela Sabatini (Argentina) scored a comfortable 6-0, 6-1 victory in the women's final of the \$250,000 Gunze World Tennis Tournament at Tokyo on July 15. She took only 57 minutes to beat Ann Grossman (US) in the one-sided contest.

In the men's final, teenager Pete Sampras of USA outplayed Peru's Davis Cup player Jaime Yzaga 6-1, 6-4.

Swedish Open Tournament

Richard Fromberg became the first Australian to win the Swedish Open Tournament in 20 years beating local favourite Magnus Larsson 6-2, 7-6 in the final at Bastad on July 16.

Top-seed Sandra Cecchini (Italy) routed Csilla Bartos (Switzerland) 6-1, 6-2 for the women's title.

Virginia Slims Tournament

Top-seeded Arantxa Sanchez Vicario (Spain) beat Jo Durie (U.K.) in the final of the Virginia Slims Tennis Tournament on July 22.

Federation Cup

Zina Garrison, rebounding from a loss in singles, and Gigi Bernandez beat the world's No. 2-ranked doubles team to give the United States a 2-1 victory over the Soviet Union and help win the Federation Cup.

This was 14th victory for the United States in the 28-year history of the tournament.

Canada Open Tennis Championship

Michael Chang won his first tournament title of 1990 with a 4-6, 6-3, 7-6, 7-3 win over Jay Berger in the final of the Canadian Open Tennis Championships.

WATER REGATTA

National Meet

Ketty Rao (Naval Sailing Club, Bombay) and Anirudh Vijaykumar (Andhra Pradesh Youth Hostel) claimed top honours in the Laser and O.K. Dinghy classes respectively, of the National Inland Water Regatta held at Hussan Sagar Lake in Hyderabad on July 20.

Current General Knowledge

AWARDS

Jnanpith award, 1989

The 25th Jnanpith Award for outstanding contribution to Indian literature has been given to the eminent Urdu writer Qurratul-Ain-Haider for her contribution during 1969 and 1983.

This is the second time an Urdu writer has been given the award. The earlier winner was Firaq Gorakhpuri.

Previous recipients of the award are: G. Sankara Kurup, Tarashankar Bandyopadhyaya, K.V. Puttappa and Umashankar Joshi (jointly), Sumitranandan Pant, Firaq Gorakhpuri, V. Satyanarayana, Bishnu De, Ramdhari Singh Dinkar, D.R. Bendre and Gopinath Mohanty (jointly), V.S. Khadekar, P.V. Akilandam, Mrs Ashapurna Devi, Shivarama Karanth, H.S. Vatsyayan, B.K. Bhattacharya, S.K. Pottekkatt, Amrita Pritam, Mahadevi Verma, Masti Venkatesh Iyengar, Thakazhi Sivasankar Pillai, Pannalal Patel, Dr Satchidanand Rautroy and Dr C.N. Reddy.

The award carries a cash prize of Rs 1.5 lakh.

Anuvrat Award

The non-agrarian former Chief Minister of West Bengal, Mr Prafulla Chandra Sen, has been awarded the Rs one lakh Anuvrat Award by the Jai Tulsi foundation.

The award has been given to the veteran Gandhian for the high moral principles he has followed all through his life.

AVIATION

India's multi-role light transport vehicle project to be launched by end-1991

The country's first joint-sector venture for the design and manufacture of the multi-role light transport aircraft (LTA) will be launched in a

year. The aircraft is scheduled to take-off in the second half of the decade of 90s. It is expected to be used as the work-horse of the fourth-level air network service, Air taxi, as executive transport and in community aerial services and remote sensing.

The aircraft will be economical in fuel consumption and will be tailor made for the Indian conditions—to operate from semi-prepared airstrips with minimum ground infrastructure and cruise at high altitudes to duck turbulent weather conditions.

The designing of LTA is being done by the National Aeronautical Laboratory (NAL), Bangalore. While NAL could build a prototype or two as the technology demonstrators, it would not be in position to set up the production line. For this it is looking up for an industry that is willing to invest in the project as well as put the technology into production.

NAL has projected a production run of 350 aircraft. Of these 250 would meet the domestic requirements and the rest would be exported. The investment required is estimated at Rs 150 crore.

The LTA is expected to cost about Rs 6.4 crore compared with Rs 8.5 crore for the Dornier 228 built indigenously, Rs 9.6 crore for the Beech Starship and Rs 9 crore for the Piaggio Avanti.

BOOKS

Aag Ka Darya

Aag Ka Darya is the most well-known novel of Ms Qurratul-Ain-Haider, winner of the 1989 Jnanpith award. The novel was published in 1959. It deals with the evolution of the Indian personality from the earliest times to the present day.

DEFENCE

India to make hi-tech radar

India will soon become the third country in the world to produce a sophisticated device called 'radar scat-

tered meter' for use of defence as well as civilian purposes. West Germany and the USA are the two other countries which produce this remote sensing equipment.

The technology for the radar has been developed by the Space Application Centre (SAC) of the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO). The production will be done by Rajasthan Communication Limited, a joint venture company.

The civilian applications of the radar would be in the field of agriculture where scientists would be able to obtain variations in the health of standing crops and the extent of crop damage as well as the subsoil conditions.

The radar will help the defence forces to identify camouflaged things, damaged pieces of artillery, aircraft which have crashed and damaged ships in the sea.

OIL

Gas found in Rajasthan

Oil India Limited (OIL) has discovered a high yielding natural gas structure at Dandewala in the desert district of Jaisalmer in Rajasthan.

The gas has been discovered at the Dandewala well No. 1 at the flow rate of 55,000 cubic metre per day through 12/64 inch beam. The first sand of the Dandewala well No. 1 was tested at the depth of 2020.5 to 2023.5 metre in the Pariwar formation. The gas sample indicated it was rich in methane which constituted 62 per cent of the natural gas.

Dandewala well No. 1 was drilled to the depth of 4500 metre, the deepest well drilled in Rajasthan so far. There are also indications of the presence of crude oil in the upper zones of the well.

OIL claims to have achieved 100 per cent success ratio in hydrocarbons discovery for exploratory drilling in Rajasthan the highest achieved anywhere in the world. The earlier produc-

tive wells drilled in the Jaisalmer basin were three wells in Tanot and one in Ramgarh.

With the gas discovery at Dandewala, the geological reserves of natural gas of 3 billion cubic metre are likely to go to 5 billion cubic metre. Once developed, a production to the tune of 400,000 cubic metre of gas per day is envisaged. This production rate can sustain a power plant and several downstream gas-based industries.

PERSONS

Anand, Viswanathan

The 20-year-old Indian grandmaster, Viswanathan Anand, has become the first Indian and only the second Asian to qualify for the candidate matches leading to the World Chess Championship.

Anand was born on December 11, 1969. In chess circles he is known as the 'Lightening kid'. He began learning chess when he was seven years old. The first time he won a prize was in 1977 in the Madras District sub-junior championship. He was just 18 when he achieved the Grandmaster title, a celebrity status in chess. He is the first and only Indian grandmaster and the eighth Asian to join the elite of chess.

In 1987 he won the world junior title at Banguio city in the Philippines. The field included joint world number three Vassely Ivanchuk (USSR), now projected as the future world champion.

He was awarded the Arjuna award in 1986. He is also the youngest to receive the Padma Shri (1990). In 1987 he was given the Soviet Land Nehru award and National Citizen award. In 1988 he was honoured with a doctorate title 'Kala' Pravina' by the Jawaharlal Nehru Technological University, Hyderabad.

Anand plays both position and tactical chess with equal finesse. He is good in all departments—opening, middle and end games. His brilliance emerges mostly in middle-game play.

Laldenga

Laldenga, the great leader of Mizoram is no more. For 30 years he had held his people spell-bound by his oratory and leadership.

He was born on January 11, 1927. He belonged to a small village, Pukpui, in Lungki district of Mizoram. He could not pursue his education beyond high school. In 1954 he became an accountant in the Districts Council. Later he resigned and joined politics.

In 1958 a famine in Mizoram prompted him to float an organisation known as Mizo National Famine Front, to do relief work. The organisation later became Mizo National Front.

Laldenga was a great leader of Mizo people. He had great admiration for the democratic structure of the country and took pride in being an Indian. He will be remembered as a leader who led his people to peace and progress.

Qurratul-Ain-Haider, Ms

Noted Urdu writer, Ms Qurratul-Ain-Haider was in the news for being selected for the 25th Jnanpith award for 1989. The 63-year-old writer has been selected for her contribution to Indian literature during the years 1969-83.

Ms Qurratul-Ain-Haider was born in Aligarh to a family of distinguished writers from Bijnor. Both her father, Mr Sajjad Haider Yaldrum, and mother, Mrs Nazr Sajjad Haider, were noted Urdu writers. She has authored five novels, four novelettes and four collections of short stories. Her most well-known novel is *Aag Ka Darya*.

PLACES

Kuwait

Kuwait was in the news when Iraq invaded and captured the tiny country, on August 2, 1990, in a well-executed military action.

Iraq had been demanding from Kuwait to write-off the (Gulf War) debts and to relinquish some of its oil rich territory. In fact the most important dispute was over the border which has been undemarcated since Kuwait won independence in 1961. The talk to solve the dispute failed on August 1 and Iraq invaded its tiny neighbour on August 2.

Although Iraq had recognised Kuwait as an independent country in 1963 it has always regarded the present day Kuwait as the product of a British protectorate which dates from 1899.

For the past 200 years Kuwait has been ruled by the al-Sabah dynasty. When the al-Sabahs first went to Kuwait in the late 17th century, it consisted of tents of ten poor fishermen alongside the small fort. Initially the Kuwaiti settlement was governed by three families, the Sabah family handled the local administration while the others controlled shipping and trade. By the 1760s al-Sabah emerged as the sole presiding family.

In the 19th century Kuwait emerged as a staging post for goods moving between the Indian Ocean and Europe. This led to increased inter-action with Ottoman Sultans. Grants of Ottoman titles, decorations, land and tax privileges enhanced the wealth of al-Sabah. Gradually Kuwait came to be referred as a part of Ottoman Iraq.

In 1899 a treaty of protection was signed with the British who thwarted all attempts of the Ottomans to establish their presence in Kuwait.

When Iraq broke free from Turkey after the 1st world war, the new Hashemite kingdom of Iraq took over the Ottoman claim. In 1950s, Nuri al-Said and other leading Iraqis put huge pressure on Sheikh Abdullah al-Salim al-Sabah (rule 1950-65) to adopt pan-Arab stance by merging Kuwait into the Hashemite Arab Federation of Iraq and Jordan, which stood badly in need of Kuwait's soaring oil revenues.

After the massacre of the Iraqi royal family in 1958, the new ruler of Baghdad, Abdul Karim Qasim, responded to emerging of an independent Kuwait in 1961 by threatening a new invasion of Kuwait. The support of Britain, Iran and the Arab league defused the crisis.

The determination of Kuwait, not to yield to threats, is considered to have been a major factor in prompting President Saddam Hussain's decision to compensate for his failure in Kuwait by invading Iranian territory adjoining Kuwait's islands of Warba and Bubuyan in 1979. The move launched the Gulf war, showering Kuwait with the difficulties that led to the present debacle.

Kuwait is a small Arab State, with an area of 17,656 sq km, on the north western coast of the Persian Gulf between Iraq and Saudi Arabia. With

per capita income of \$ 13,890 it is one of the richest countries of the world. It is world's fourth largest producer of Petroleum.

RESEARCH

Digital Broadcasting: Revolution in Offing

Radio broadcasting is now readying itself for the next revolution—digital broadcasting. Under this system, expected to be in use on a large scale late in this decade, the reception will be free of static and hiss.

Already a consortium of European broadcasters, stereo equipment manufacturers and research institutions have developed and demonstrated it from a combination of satellites and land-based towers. Three US Companies are introducing services in 1990 in which digital music will be transmitted to homes over cable television lines.

Three other companies have applied to the federal communications commission for frequencies to begin satellite transmission of digital music to home and car radios in a few years. The US Government is now exploring the idea of creating a worldwide digital satellite service.

One issue to be resolved is how to make the transition without instantly rendering obsolete 500 million radios in the United States alone.

The national association of broadcasters, representing radio broadcasters in the US, has passed a resolution opposing the introduction of digital audio service from satellites, saying that the services should be provided from land-based towers. The broadcasters are apparently fearful of potential competition from digital broadcasting from satellites.

SPACE RESEARCH

Satellite to 'see' space launched

The National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) of the United States has launched a scientific research satellite that will permit scientists to study the invisible magnetic and electrical fields above earth's atmosphere by "painting" them with colourful chemicals.

The combined release and radia-

tion effects satellite was launched on July 25, 1990 on board an unmanned Atlas rocket.

A joint project of NASA and the US air force, the satellite is to test the effect of space radiation on advanced electronic components in addition to releasing its cargo of colourful chemicals.

Boosted into an elliptical orbit that is to reach as high as 35,577 kilometres above the earth, the spacecraft is expected to release 24 aluminium canisters, during the next year, containing various chemicals such as barium, calcium and lithium which will form large, glowing clouds that would allow NASA scientists to see normally invisible charged space particles and magnetic field lines.

By observing the motion of the clouds, scientists will be able to measure electric fields in space, see how they interact with charged particles to form waves and better understand how the earth extracts energy from the solar wind, the stream of high-speed charged particles flowing from the sun.

The first canisters are to be released in September over the South Pacific. The satellite releases will be augmented by chemical releases from 10 sounding rockets launched from Puerto Rico and the Marshall islands. The luminous clouds will be studied from the ground, from specially-equipped aircraft and from the satellite itself.

Magellan near Venus

Magellan, a robot spacecraft armed with a sophisticated radar,

is ready to rendezvous with Venus and begin an eight-month exploration and mapping of the earth's nearest neighbour.

The craft approached Venus at 39,580 kmph. The rocket firing on August 10, 1990 slowed Magellan to 29,600 kmph enough to put it into the planet's orbital grasp.

After a checkout period lasting until September 1, Magellan will use a powerful radar system to penetrate the dense clouds above Venus and gather images for a detailed map of the haked surface of the torrid planet.

Magellan was carried into space by the space shuttle Atlantis and released into earth orbit on May 4, 1989. An upper stage rocket engine was fired to send Magellan streaking out of earth orbit toward Venus. During its 15-month voyage, the spacecraft looped the sun, passed earth's orbit once and then, sped towards its August meeting with Venus.

MISCELLANY

Bear Sanctuary near Hospet

India's first sanctuary, exclusively for sloth-bears, is to be established near Kampli in Hospet taluk of Karnataka's Bellary district.

With the increase in the bear population and reports of sloth-bears raiding sugarcane fields and coconut plantations and attacking villagers it has been decided to establish the sanctuary which will cost nearly Rs 50 lakh.

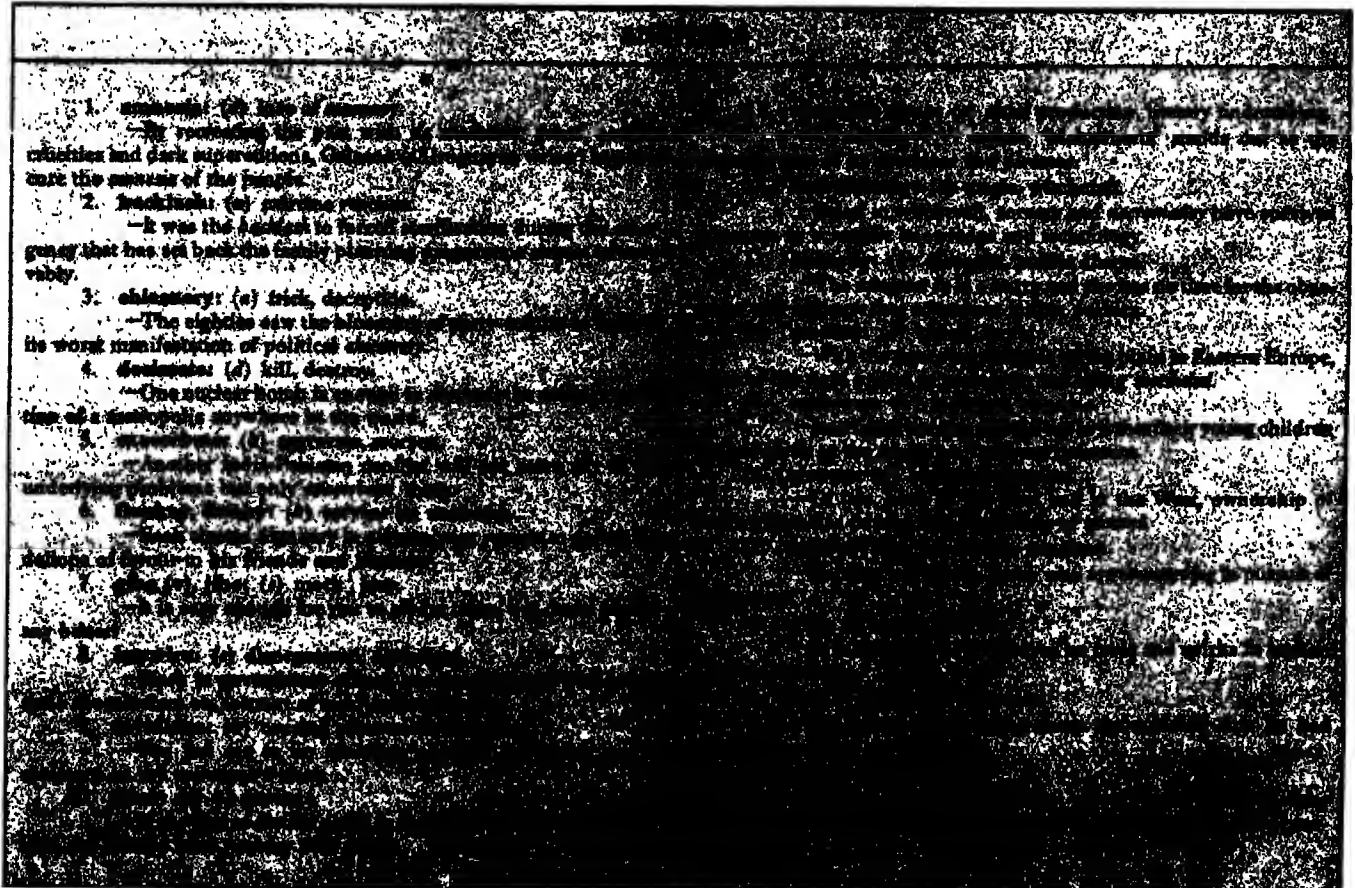
**FOR SURE SUCCESS IN
ANY COMPETITIVE EXAM
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GENERAL KNOWLEDGE
REFRESHER**

By O.P. Khanna

**A PRESTIGIOUS PUBLICATION OF
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Improve Your Word Power

1. **amnesia:** (a) loss of initiative (b) loss of health (c) loss of money (d) loss of memory.
2. **backlash:** (a) extreme reaction (b) rotation (c) explosion (d) target.
3. **chicanery:** (a) trick (b) reception (c) conception (d) expression.
4. **decimate:** (a) explode (b) insult (c) abuse (d) kill.
5. **exacerbate:** (a) lessen (b) aggravate (c) accede (d) exceed.
6. **flunkey, flunky:** (a) superior (b) servant (c) inferior (d) ring-master.
7. **gibe (v), jibe:** (a) appreciate (b) depreciate (c) mock (d) activate.
8. **haywire:** (a) destroyed (b) depressed (c) disorganized (d) impressed.
9. **invidious:** (a) good-will (b) causing resentment (c) war-like (d) invigorating.
10. **jitter:** (a) be confident (b) be brave (c) be polite (d) be nervous.
11. **magnum opus:** (a) unique opportunity (b) rare enterprise (c) chief production (d) wonder.
12. **necromancy:** (a) magic (b) mystery (c) nightmare (d) pagan.
13. **obloquy:** (a) pride (b) discredit (c) faith (d) surprise.
14. **rescind:** (a) cancel (b) remit (c) permit (d) submit.
15. **scabrous:** (a) virtuous (b) indecent (c) pure (d) harmless.
16. **tycoon:** (a) dacoit (b) criminal (c) influential person (d) business magnate.
17. **unswerving:** (a) wavering (b) hesitant (c) conservative (d) steady.
18. **wilt:** (a) grow (b) develop (c) droop (d) dry.
19. **yack:** (a) lecture (b) sermonize (c) talk continuously (d) meditate.
20. **zoom:** (a) fall (b) die (c) soar (d) convulse.



Appointments Etc.

Appointed; Elected Etc

Ghulam Mustafa Jatoi. He has been appointed as the interim Prime Minister of Pakistan following the dismissal of Benazir Bhutto government.

Hukam Singh. He has been appointed Chief Minister of Haryana.

P.K. Kathpalia. He has been appointed advisor to Governor of Punjab.

Dr Arjun K. Sengupta. He has been appointed Indian Ambassador to Belgium.

Ramesh Chander Arora. He has been appointed as Ambassador of India to Ireland.

G. Parthasarthy. He has been appointed India's High Commissioner to Cyprus.

R.D. Kitson. He has been appointed as Chairman of the Railway Board and ex-officio Principal Secretary to Government of India. He succeeds Mr M.N. Prasad.

S.R. Gupta. He has been appointed Managing Director of Air India.

Dismissed

Ms Benazir Bhutto. Prime Minister

of Pakistan.

Devi Lal. Deputy Prime Minister of India.

Resigned

Banarsi Das Gupta. Chief Minister of Haryana.

Om Prakash Chautala. Chief Minister of Haryana.

Rajan Jetly. Chairman and Managing Director of Air India.

Jagdeep Dhankar. Deputy Minister for Parliamentary Affairs in the Union Cabinet.

Distinguished Visitors

Gareth Evans. Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade, Australia.

Died

Laldenga. The Mizo National Front President and former Chief Minister of Mizoram.

A.F.S. Talyarkhan. Well-known sports journalist and broadcaster. He was 93.

M.P. Birla. Leading industrialist of India. He was 72.

C.N. Chittaranjan. Veteran journalist and freedom fighter.

23—Prime Minister V.P. Singh begins Soviet visit.

26—South and North Korea sign an agreement to hold first inter-Korean Prime Ministers' talks in Seoul on September 4-7, 1990.

28—A radical black Muslim group seize the Prime Minister and the Cabinet, of Trinidad and Tobago, in a coup attempt.

29—The 14-day-long hostage drama in Assam ends with the release of the General Manager of the Indian Oil Corporation's Guwahati refinery, Mr H.K.L. Das, his son and driver in exchange for the release of 3 ULFA activists.

—12 militants are among 21 killed in Kashmir.

—10 terrorists are among 19 killed in Punjab.

30—9 terrorists are among 25 killed in terrorist linked violence in Punjab.

31—More than 600 people are killed in civil war in Liberia.

AUGUST

1—Mr Devi Lal, Deputy Prime Minister of India, is dismissed.

—Soviet Union ends press censorship.

—Mozambique decides to abandon its one-party State in favour of a multi-party system.

—Reconciliation talks between Iraq and Kuwait, in their dispute over oil, border and money, collapse.

2—Iraq invades Kuwait.

—26 people including 8 terrorists are killed in Punjab.

4—LTTE men kill 170 Muslims in Sri Lanka.

6—Ms Benazir Bhutto is sacked as the Prime Minister of Pakistan. The Assembly is dissolved.

7—African National Congress (ANC) suspends its armed struggle against the white racist South African regime.

—8 security personnel and 10 terrorists are among 26 killed in Punjab.

8—Iraq announces "unity" with Kuwait with President Saddam Hussain as President of the United country.

—US troops move into Saudi Arabia.

EVENTS

JULY

14—Prime Minister V.P. Singh resigns in protest against bringing back of Mr O.P. Chautala as the Chief Minister of Haryana.

—Janata Dal rejects V.P. Singh's offer to quit.

—LTTE men kill more than 200 Muslims in Sri Lanka.

15—Blasts rip through Sind in Pakistan. More than 50 people are killed.

16—O.P. Chautala resigns as Chief Minister of Haryana.

—Soviet Union accepts United Germany's NATO membership.

—More than 1500 people are killed as

earthquake strikes Manila, Philippines.

17—10 terrorists are among 27 people killed in Punjab.

—INSAT-ID becomes operational.

18—34 Pakistan-trained militants are killed by security forces in Jammu and Kashmir.

—Jammu and Kashmir comes under President's rule.

—USA withdraws support to Cambodian rebel coalition which includes the Khmer Rouge.

19—The two-day Into-Pak talks end in Islamabad without achieving any significant breakthrough.

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A LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

Dear Reader,

As our numerous readers are fully aware, the introduction of the "C.M." every now and then, timely and eminently useful features of our magazine's supplements. The latest in the series is our feature entitled "December's December" which started in the September issue. This unique feature has become very popular and the numerous letters of thanks we have received from our patrons are convincing evidence of the utility of this feature to the candidates for the banking and other competitive examinations.

We publish in the Readers' Edition the best of these complimentary letters. The limitation of space prevent us from publishing more of such expressions of deep gratitude for the efforts we are making in this direction. The majority of the contributors have pointed out, no other magazine in the country provides this type of service for the enlightenment of candidates. We wish to take this opportunity of assuring the contributors that there would be no slackening of effort on our part. Maximum service is our constant aim and, after all, our motto which we constantly keep before us. Honesty and integrity are not what we fall back upon.

In this connection we would like to mention that the Special Supplements of 16 pages each, "At No Extra Cost" which we publish from time to time, these Special Supplements were brought out in the summer months. These Special Supplements will be happy to learn that, in continuance of this series and in view of the numerous requests, we intend to bring out two more Special Supplements of 16 pages each, one for the September and December '90 issues. These will cover questions relating to the examination and will be an additional attraction of "C.M." and our readers will not be disappointed. They would do well to reserve their copy right now. These Special Supplements will be one of the most popular materials, but further details will be given in the next issue of "C.M." magazine to all young men and women preparing for the examination.

With best wishes,

Yours sincerely,

E. J. [Signature]

Big Two Avert War

Millions of peace-loving people around the world heaved a sigh of relief over the net outcome of the Helsinki summit between President George Bush and Mr Mikhail Gorbachev. For the present, at any rate, a third World War has been averted, even though the Gulf crisis caused by the power-obsessed Iraqi President's blatant aggression against his tiny neighbour—Kuwait. At one time it appeared as if a large-scale armed conflict, which would have made a terrible world-wide impact, was inevitable. It was not President Saddam Hussein's obstinacy alone that gravely threatened peace. The U.S. President too seemed determined to make a show of his country's unmatched military might. He felt piqued over the harsh reality that Iraq had dared to challenge the U.S. and had even threatened Washington's oil-rich protegee—Saudi Arabia.

At the Helsinki summit, fortunately, good sense prevailed. Both the U.S. and the Soviet Union realised that peace should be speedily promoted, not war which could prove ruinous to many countries, including the close supporters of the Super Powers themselves. As history indicates, no large-scale, much less a global war, takes place without the direct or indirect collaboration of the Super Powers. Since the end of the Cold War the motivating factors and the main causes of rivalry between the giant Powers have receded into the background. As a result, the world is having the long-awaited respite from both wars of nerves and actual clashes in the various potential theatres of conflict. Both sides displayed commendable restraint. To quote Shakespeare, "for this relief, much thanks". Peace gets another chance, which is all to the good.

But a realistic analysis of the joint communique issued after the summit clearly indicates that all the differences have not been settled and the seeds of conflict in the Gulf remain. In other words, the conflicts in the approach of the Super Powers have not melted away; some of the differences seem to have been papered over with the aim of avoiding a military showdown at any cost. Knowledgeable sources affirm that both the U.S.A. and the Soviet Union put out an unprecedented show of unity of purpose. The pronouncements made in the joint communique are designed to enjoin peace. But doubts linger in countless minds whether the Iraqi President would agree to withdraw from Kuwait and give up the prize he has so audaciously won.

The joint declaration made by President Bush and the

U.S.S.R. leader categorically called on Iraq to pull out of Kuwait and restore the tiny victim's legitimate government. But the basic issue is: would President Saddam Hussein be cowed down into submission and comply with the directives of the giant Powers? If his past conduct in international relations is any guide, he is unlikely to bow to external pressure. If he remains adamant, the Gulf crisis would remain unresolved for quite some time. That would be a pity. The consequential stalemate would suit the Iraqi leader but not the tension-ridden Gulf countries which apparently fear Iraq more than ever before. Besides, would the proposed sanctions prove effective?

Military analysts have conceded that Iraq is now the most powerful country in the Gulf region. After its victory over Iran, its successful defiance of U.S. military might, together with its possession of chemical weapons, its arrogance knows no limits. Through a tactful manoeuvre—even by surrendering many of the gains of the 1980-88 war with Iraq—it has ensured Iran's support also. The Soviet Union has played a cautious and constructive role. Obviously, it realised the grave implications of a deadly war for its own bloc of East European nations (now in a shambles).

A notable aspect of the summit trend and of recent international developments generally is the recognition of the crucial role that the U.N. can play in resolving major political crises like the one purposefully created by Iraq. As if for a change, both the Super Powers, together with the entire international community (including India), have extended full support to the resolutions of the U.N. on the Gulf tangle. Thus, the world body is well set to play its due role. This development is certainly to be welcomed because in recent years the glaring weaknesses of the world organisation had repeatedly come to light. Doubts had even been expressed about the future of this Organisation.

The surprise over the changed approach is all the greater because of the vigorous drive launched by the "hawks" in the U.S.A. The fact that lately, there has been a distinct softening of the Americans' aggressive postures holds out much promise of peace.

In sum, the Gulf situation, despite the recent trends towards peace, still needs to be carefully watched. The possibility of another flash-point being reached cannot be ruled out. After all, durable peace is hard to ensure amidst formidable odds.

READERS' FORUM

THE MANDAL REPORT

It is a universally known fact that poverty knows no caste distinctions. It has no reservations towards the class of people on whom it is tightening its grip. Can anyone deny that some industrialists, professionals and high-ranking government officials come under this category of "backwardness"? Can anyone seriously argue that reservations must be continued for these people? Reservations should be there for everyone living below the poverty line, whatever be the caste. All who are keen to establish a casteless society should convince our Prime Minister that there should certainly be progress for all but not on caste basis.

Kumool

P. Sivaram Prasad

When 50 per cent of the country will be run by inefficient and incompetent people, the country will be doomed. And this will affect everyone. People from the backward classes are capable of working hard. And they should. Instead of asking for jobs, they should ask for facilities to be better educated and thus deserve the jobs they seek. There is no dearth of jobs for the brilliant.

Patna

Kaushar Mazhar

Reservations are likely to compartmentalise the country. It will pit class against class, caste against caste, and further damage the social fabric of the country that is already being ripped apart by differences based on religion and region. Reservations will not eliminate the dividing lines but institutionalise them.

Instead of reservations we must provide for free, universal, compulsory and effective education for the children of backward classes and tribes. The brilliant among them should be provided scholarships for higher studies.

If we wish to build a united, forward-looking, secular India that uses its vast reservoir of brain power, this should be done with a determined and honest approach.

Roorkee

Alok Pundir

The reservation policy has perpetuated caste instead of abolishing it. Every true Indian would like to see fellow Indians to make progress, irrespective of caste, etc. But prosperity should be sought by using proper tools. The under-privileged should be provided all kinds of facilities free of cost to enable them to get educated and compete for the best jobs. An environment should be created where they can gain knowledge and education. The rest would follow automatically.

Bankura

Somnath Paul

We must welcome the P.M.'s decision to extend the provision of reservations in the service for OBCs by implementing the Mandal Commission Report. Though more than four decades have passed since we got independence, more than 60-70% of the OBCs are still below the poverty line. The economic condition of the OBCs indicates that no serious effort has been made to raise their status, as it was done for the SCs/STs. Hence the need of the hour is to implement the Mandal Report.

Reservations must also be provided to all poor people and the minorities who are below the poverty line.

Bihar Shariff

M. Naushad

CRISIS UPON CRISIS

Your editorial "Crisis upon Crisis" (Sept. '90 issue) truly reflects the present state of politics in our country. Instead of putting in earnest efforts to solve India's complex national problems, our leaders are busy pulling each other down. They do not seem to be serious towards the fulfilment of their responsibilities towards the teeming millions whose welfare should be accorded the highest priority.

Delhi

S K S Rathor

With regard to your editorial "Crisis upon Crisis", I disagree on certain points.

Firstly, the greatest service to the nation that the National Front Government has done is to free the Gandhi family from its wrong belief that ruling over India is their "JANAM SIDH ADHIKAR".

Secondly, the earnestness of the N.F. Government should not be doubted; it has brought in a number of good laws and amendments and has been trying to make other welcome structural changes.

Jalandhar

Ajay Khullar

DISTORTIONS IN INDIA'S DEMOCRACY

To make India a real democratic State, which our founding fathers dreamt of, we have to reform our social as well as economic system along with the political one; otherwise political reforms will be of little use.

It should not be forgotten that the roots of democracy emanate from the masses.

Patna

Rajesh Kumar Jha

I am of the opinion that the lack of moral values among our leaders, administrators and those who claim to be defenders of the nation's democratic set-up has led to the gross and rampant corruption, electoral malpractices and ceaseless deterioration in the social, economic and political fields.

Lakhmisa

S.M. Kamran

"AMEERI REKHA" AND POVERTY LINE

It is indeed difficult to tackle problems like the persistent increase in the economic disparities, but we should not give way to utter despair. If, even after becoming fully aware of the fact that the concept of "Ameeri Rekha" is impractical, someone harps on this theme, it must be regarded as a part of social and political rhetoric.

Unfortunately, Mr V.P. Singh has joined the group of politicians who believe in paying lip service to the concept of social and economic justice. The concept of "Ameeri Rekha" is nothing but a demagogic idea to deceive innocent people.

Raxaul

Lokesh Kumar Singh

AGRICULTURAL POLICY RESOLUTION

Unless and until we improve our rural economy and rectify the omissions, we cannot make India a rich country. No scheme for economic development can be fruitful unless it results in the upliftment of the poverty-stricken rural masses.

Nacchpur

Udaya Kumar Nanda

UNITY OF GERMANY

With reference to your Special Feature "Unity of Germany", it is time for the people of India and Pakistan to think of a similar type of confederation. In the changed environment of the world, when the Cold War is over and the Super Powers are coming closer and closer, we must not be found wanting. The partition of India was effected about the same time as the partition of Germany and Korea; it brought with it endless streams of blood and sorrow. If the people of Germany can work for reunification and the Koreans can seek reconciliation, why should we lag behind?

It is time we ourselves forced the Government to let us cross over the borders, reach others' homes and establish bonds of unity which will help in establishing a peaceful South Asia.

Kotdwara

Chandra Mohan Singh

DESCRIPTIVE QUESTIONS

Many thanks to you for introducing the feature— "Descriptive Questions". In fact when I was contemplating to write to you to urge introduction of such a feature, I discovered, much to my joy (in the September issue) this feature already published. The "C.M." really understands the needs and problems of its numerous readers and strives to help its readers in every way. This magazine is truly our best friend for guiding us in achieving our goal. Long live "C.M.".

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Anupam Delle

Please accept my congratulations on publishing a new and highly useful column for Bank P.O.s and Clerks examinations— "Descriptive Questions". It will be of great help to those preparing for bank recruitment examinations.

Lucknow

Chandra Bhan Yadav

Your decision to meet the urgent need of thousands of students, by publishing a highly useful feature— "Descriptive Questions"— is commendable. Answers to this type of questions are not available in any other competitive magazine.

Please accept my hearty thanks for starting such a useful feature.

Delhi

Sujeet Kumar Mehta

I am a regular reader of "C.M.". It is the only magazine which covers almost all branches of knowledge and is superb in character. In this period of cut-throat competition it is indispensable for candidates for various competitive examinations.

The "Special Supplements" in the May, June and August issues were excellent. It would be good to continue such special supplements.

Phullani

Ramesh Chandra

May be you have recently appeared in any competitive examination.

We shall be grateful if you could send us the question papers. The original papers will be returned along with the postage spent by you.

Your gesture will be highly appreciated.

Notes on Current National Affairs

- ★ *RESERVATIONS QUOTA 27%*
- ★ *NATIONAL FRONT GOVT "UNDER FIRE"*
- ★ *INDIA'S GESTURE TO NEPAL*
- ★ *UNION MINISTER WARNS JUDICIARY*
- ★ *COMMON STRATEGY AGAINST INSURGENCY*
- ★ *ASSAM ELECTIONS AGAIN PUT OFF?*
- ★ *NEW RIGHT TO INFORMATION BILL*
- ★ *INDIA OPPOSES IRAQ-KUWAIT MERGER*
- ★ *INDIA'S NEW ILLITERACY ERADICATION PLAN*

Reservations Quota 27%

The Union Government at long last announced, at the commencement of Parliament's monsoon session, its acceptance of the Mandal Report according to which the quota of posts reserved for socially and educationally backward classes in Central Government services and public undertakings would be 27 per cent. The reservation would be applicable, in the first phase, to castes which are common on the lists prepared by the Mandal Commission and several States. Describing it as a "momentous decision of social justice", the Prime Minister said it was in accordance with the ruling National Front's commitment to the people.

The second Backward Classes Commission, under the chairmanship of the late Mr B.P. Mandal, was appointed on January 1, 1979. It gave its report on December 31, 1980. Last April the Union Government designated the Ambedkar centenary year as the "Year of Social Justice". The Government had since taken several measures for the benefit of Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and other weaker sections. These included removing injustice towards neo-Buddhists; vesting constitutional status and substantial powers in the National Commission for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.

The backward classes identified by Mr B.P. Mandal constitute 52 per cent of the Indian population and an overwhelming percentage of these are still extremely backward and constantly oppressed and exploited. Over the years, politicians have developed deep-rooted vested interest in perpetuating illiteracy and backwardness among our people. According to some observers, the system of reservations has created "oases of affluence amidst deserts of poverty and backwardness". The divide is not

just between forward and backward people but between the better off backward people and the rest of the backward classes. In fact the Mandal panel emphasised primarily the need to bridge the cultural economic chasm between the rich and the poor sections of society.

In many progressive circles the decision is regarded as a political move, triggered by vote considerations and detrimental to the growth of a healthy society. Numerous bureaucrats, educationists, students and housewives feel that the move is bound to increase caste violence in the long run as it would result in tremendous frustration to those denied jobs despite having obtained a higher percentage of marks.

The benefits of reservation have actually been hogged by a small section of society. Some members of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes have been availing the facility generation after generation but there are many who have not availed themselves of the benefit even once.

Intense agitation: The announcement on reservations has led to intense agitations in large areas of the country. There have been many protest demonstrations, processions and even firings at youth mobs, seeking modifications in the quotas which in effect debar countless people from appointments and promotions in Government services. But the Prime Minister has declared that the Union Government is firm on implementing the Mandal Report. The agitation was particularly intense in Gujarat, U.P., Delhi and Haryana.

National Front Govt "Under Fire"

During the past few weeks the V.P. Singh Government has been severely criticised not only by the parties such as the Congress (I) but also by the supporters and the constituents of the ruling alliance

itself—and even by M.P.s belonging to the Janata Dal. All in all, Mr V.P. Singh's team has been having a tough time. The supporters of the regime have also been criticising each other—a sorry spectacle.

The BJP has been finding fault with the Union Government for pursuing an ill-conceived, weak policy on Kashmir, for being soft on Punjab terrorists and for not taking a positive line on the Ram Janam Bhoomi issue.

The CPM (which is a supporter of the National Government because it wants to keep out the Congress) accuses the Government of failing to honour the poll pledges to the people. Mr Jyoti Basu, the West Bengal Chief Minister, advised the Government to make the utmost endeavour to meet the political and economic challenges facing the country. He expressed much dissatisfaction at the inner bickerings in the Janata Dal.

He regretted that the Government faced at least two major crises during the past few months because of its own "created problems". He was referring to the stalemate resulting from the reinstallation of Mr Om Parkash Chautala as the Haryana Chief Minister and the forged letter episode for which the Deputy Prime Minister was wholly responsible.

Mr Basu pointed out that the image of the National Front had been badly tarnished. But he conceded that there was no alternative to the present Central set-up. Mr V.P. Singh should, according to Mr Basu, strengthen the functioning of his ministry.

The President of the Congress (I), Mr Rajiv Gandhi, has again described the V.P. Singh Ministry as unfit to govern; it "presents a ridiculous spectacle" because of its persistent internal contradictions and policy blunders. He felt sure that the

National Front Government would soon fall because of its own contradictions and its bungling in every arena.

India's Gesture to Nepal

Several plus points emerged from External Affairs Minister I.K. Gujral's three-day official visit to Nepal early in August. He had cordial talks with Prime Minister K.P. Bhattarai. One, India has agreed to a Nepalese request to open three more transit points for non-Indian tourists along the border with U.P. Two, an Indian team of experts will visit Kathmandu shortly to prepare a project report for a railway link in an attempt to reduce Nepal's transit problems. Three, Mr Gujral called for a trade regime to put the economic and commercial relations between India and Nepal on a truly comprehensive basis. Under the proposed trade regime, Nepalese goods would be allowed unrestricted duty-free entry into India, while Indian goods would continue to be subjected to duty for the transitional period "for protective purposes" to prevent an abrupt revenue loss.

Nepal has been asked to meet some of India's concerns: protection of the environment, harnessing of water resources of the common rivers, end Nepal's reluctance in cooperating in vital areas. Mr Gujral made it clear that India and Nepal could develop full-fledged economic ties because of the advanced stage of development and size of the Indian economy. Nepal intends to adopt an open-door industrial policy to promote external investment. Nepal has suggested that as a leading industrial nation, India could play an important role in its close neighbour's industrial development and help it in establishing a self-reliant economy.

During his visit, Mr. Gujral assured India's close friendship and solidarity with the democratic govern-

ment and people of the Himalayan kingdom. India has assured assistance in drafting Nepal's new constitution. Two experts are expected in Kathmandu soon (one is Mr A.G. Noorani).

On return to Delhi, Mr Gujral disclosed that he had a cordial talk with King Bikram Shah Dev who described Mr Gujral's Kathmandu visit as a notable event. It was the first by a senior Indian Minister since the formation of the National Government. They also discussed the future of SAARC. The King suggested that India should take the lead in promoting regional cooperation.

Union Minister Warns Judiciary

The long delay in securing justice and the disconcerting arrears of pending cases in courts have prompted Union Law Minister Dinesh Goswami to sound the warning that if justice is not time-oriented, the judiciary itself may collapse, giving rise to "mafia and other illegal organised groups". Extra-legal authorities are already raising their heads and posing a threat to our judicial and democratic system.

Of course there is need to render timely justice so that the people may not lose faith in the judicial system and seek redress through extra-legal authorities. There are about 1.8 million cases pending in various High Courts of the country and more than 2,00,000 in the Supreme Court. He added that Government officials should take measures to reduce the arrears.

One of the steps taken by the Government to reduce litigation is the introduction of a National Judicial Commission Bill in Parliament with the aim of ensuring justice for people without any delay. A top legal expert has suggested that a high-powered legal cell be set up to recommend measures for reducing litigations,

and expediting justice. The Attorney General also said a committee be formed to screen cases before they are registered or filed.

Checking Govt Litigation: For the majority of the cases the Government itself is the litigant. The Government cases range from petty disputes to points of law. Now the Government has decided to take steps to reduce such litigation. The Law Ministers of various States favour the appointment of high-level screening committees in each Government department to scrutinise and accept legitimate claims. Acceptance of legitimate claims by the Government would prevent it from being taken to courts by the people. The Government should file cases and appeals, only when a substantial question of law or miscarriage of justice is involved. The Law Ministers feel that the filing of cases and appeals by the Government has so far been a route to escape from accountability.

Common Strategy Against Insurgency

All the seven North-Eastern States are planning a common strategy to deal with the insurgents operating from across the border according to the Mizoram Governor, Mr Swaraj Kaushal. Coordinated efforts are being made to implement a coordinated action plan. The former Advocate-General, who had drafted the Mizoram accord between Mr Laldenga and the Central Government, stated that all political parties and people were for its implementation.

Judging from the activities of the Liberation Front of Assam (ULFA) it appears that all the secessionist forces in the region have joined hands to create trouble.

Manipur and Mizoram have decided to organise common combining operations against the Hill People's Convention (HPC) which

recently launched an armed insurgency for an autonomous district for the Himar people. The North eastern Council recently decided to exchange information and plan joint operation to curb terrorism. Insurgency had ended in Mizoram after signing of the accord in June, 1986. However, some new groups, including the HPC, have been creating problems for the State Government. The Mizoram Chief Minister was prepared for talks with any group on genuine demands, but the State Government would never encourage those who believe in violence.

Assam Elections Again Put Off?

The Assam State Assembly elections, which were due in December, 1990, have again been postponed, thus upsetting the calculations of the various political parties in the field. The Union Home Minister, Mufti Mohammed Sayeed, disclosed on September 4 that since the law and order situation had not improved in the State it would not be appropriate to hold elections. Violence was continuing and the general situation was not conducive to holding of free and fair elections.

It may be recalled that a few years ago the Assembly elections in the State were the bloodiest on record. The State Assembly has 126 members, and it is due to elect 14 members to the Lok Sabha also.

The Union Home Minister said that the State Government should take strong measures to improve the law and order situation. The Centre has insisted upon the Chief Minister to take certain measures and the AGP Government would have to take a political stand against ULFA. The Assam Accord, he claimed, had been sincerely implemented and the updating of the electoral rolls, which was the responsibility of the State Government, had also been

completed, according to his information.

However, the Assam State authorities apparently do not accept the assessment of the Union Home Minister. Chief Minister Prafulla Kumar Mohanta indicated after the Mufti's statement that elections for 2061 village panchayats would be held in November. With effect from September 5, the Assam Panchayat Raj Act of 1986 would replace an earlier legislation of 1972. The 1986 Act provides for a three-tier system of panchayats at the village, block and sub-divisional levels instead of the earlier two-tier system.

New Right to Information Bill

As part its all-out bid to implement its election commitments, the Janata Dal Government has decided to introduce in Parliament legislation to give legal shape to the Right of Information. All enlightened citizens of this country have been demanding for years that this Right be made legal and not left at the discretion of the Government.

It is understood that the Government will hold a country-wide debate to arrive at a broad consensus on the issue of providing legal shape to the Right of Information. This has already been done in part through the Prasar Bharati Bill passed by Parliament during its monsoon session.

A study group on this question recently submitted its report to the Union Government. This report is now being processed and it is believed that the legislation would be simple and the right will be made a constitutional one.

Official Secrets Act: Steps would also be taken to amend the Official Secrets Act after giving legal shape to the right to information,—an election pledge of the National Front

Government. Speaking at the function, Mr Upendra reiterated the National Front Government's commitment to the freedom of the press and assured that nothing would be done to hamper it.

Right to work: It is reliably estimated that implementation of the right to work will cost the exchequer Rs 12,000 crore to Rs 13,000 crore at the current level. The task, though challenging, is not impossible to accomplish. The Government would strive to absorb the maximum number of unskilled labour in the employment generation schemes, according to the Minister concerned. The total number of job-seekers with the employment exchanges at the end of May 1990 was about 33 million. Not all those registered with the employment exchanges were "necessarily unemployed".

India Opposes Iraq-Kuwait Merger

In accordance with its policy of opposing all types of aggression and illegal occupation of other nations' territory, the Government of India has more than once affirmed that it does not recognize the Iraq-Kuwait merger recently announced by President Saddam Hussein. India maintains its diplomatic relations with Kuwait without interruption.

The special envoy of Kuwait, Mr Rasheed al Ameer, who met Prime Minister V.P. Singh and the External Affairs Minister, Mr I.K. Gujral, on September 5, urged that India and the rest of the world community should take a firm stand on the issue and condemn Iraqi aggression outright. Both the Kuwait spokesman and the Indian leaders agreed that all foreign (Iraqi) forces should quit Kuwait territory and speedily restore Kuwait's sovereignty. Both sides

agreed that the crisis should be resolved through peaceful negotiations. The Kuwait envoy and the Indian spokesmen reiterated their opposition to the use of force in inter-State relations.

For many days there was doubt in the minds of other countries about India's stand on the issue, but Mr I.K. Gujral has made the position quite clear.

India's New Illiteracy Eradication Plan

As the next move to pursue the illiteracy eradication programme the national literacy mission has evolved a new technique. The aim is to ensure effective mobilization and participation of learners. This new method known as "Improved pace and content of learning (IPCL)", is based on three factors—programme duration, programme content and visible results.

The new strategy, to be introduced on a selective basis during 1990-91, aims at designing three sets of primers, corresponding to three levels of learning. Each level will be a progression or improvement from the other.

Since the three primers are based on the principles of progression in learning, the learner, through a process of intensive self-evaluation at the end of each lesson and a final evaluation at the end of each primer, would be able to see for himself the pace and progress of learning, it is believed. The new system would greatly motivate the learners and would also instil an element of self-confidence to progress.

The mission has designed a detailed operational strategy involving 20 States and resource centres in preparation of the multi-graded and

integrated primers for IPCL. The main objective of NLM is to impart functional literacy to 80 million illiterate persons in 15-35 age group by 1995.

The harsh reality is that the Government has failed to meet the target set for providing functional literacy to the 30 million illiterate in the country by 1990. It has been able to impart elementary learning to only about 16 million people during the last two years. The adult literacy mission started one year behind schedule.

Union Minister of State for Human Resource Development, Chimanbhai Mehta, said on the eve of the International Literacy Day that the ultimate target was to impart functional literacy to 80 million people in the 15-35 age group by 1995. While the mission required Rs 25 crore, the Government has so far released only Rs 2 crore for the task.

New Education Policy: Greater decentralisation of education, including operation blackboard, a realistic time-bound programme for vocational education and reorientating higher education for rural development have been emphasised by the Acharya Ramamurti Review Committee on Education.

The 17-member committee, appointed in May has not condemned the National Policy on Education (NPE) of the Congress government but has looked at it critically. It has questioned a few concepts and philosophies like that of the Navodaya schools and tried to point out lacunae where they exist. It does not favour the non-formal education system. The committee also seeks to reintroduce the common school or neighbourhood school concept in urban areas.

Notes on Current International Affairs

- ★ GIANT POWERS' SUMMIT ON GULF CRISIS
- ★ FORMAL END OF IRAQ-IRAN WAR
- ★ POLITICAL TRANSFORMATION IN SAUDI ARABIA
- ★ UNION OF TWO KOREAS NOW CERTAIN
- ★ CHINA WARNS OF GLOBAL UNREST
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Giant Powers' Summit on Gulf Crisis

The Summit talks between President George Bush and President Gorbachov in Helsinki, the capital of Finland, on Sunday (Sept 9) conformed to expectations of shrewd observers around the world. The summit resulted in a broad agreement on several aspects of the Gulf crisis and, in effect, averted a large-scale armed conflict which seemed imminent.

There were admittedly differences on certain perceptions, but the Super Powers agreed on the main issue: that the Iraqi forces must pull out of Kuwait territory. The two world leaders also agreed that the comprehensive UN resolutions on the issue should be implemented by all nations. Even more important, they agreed that the international community must enforce the actions against Iraq as provided for in the UN resolutions.

There are doubts, however, whether the proposed sanctions will prove really effective and persuade Iraq to reverse its aggression. A notable aspect of the summit accord was that, by and large, both the U.S.A. and the Soviet Union were on the same side of the fence and did not show their differences of approach except on minor issues such as supply of food and relief to the victims of the aggression as well as the stranded people. Restraint marked the summit session throughout. Thus the main objective of the two Powers—to demonstrate to the world that they stand united in their broad strategy towards Iraq—was achieved.

Both leaders dutifully endorsed the UN resolutions for peacefully ending the Gulf conflict and backed away from a military solution in the day-long summit. A joint Soviet-U.S. statement released at the end of the

meeting read: "Nothing short of the complete implementation of the United Nations resolution is acceptable."

Asked whether there would be war over the Gulf conflict, Mr Bush replied: "I hope that we can achieve a peaceful solution." On his part, Mr Gorbachov's spokesman told reporters there was considerable emphasis on the UN role in solving the crisis. The Soviet spokesman stressed the importance of the UN engagement against Iraq, adding: "It is very important that we have engaged the UN structure in the situation which will have great consequences."

President Bush's assurances about pulling out American troops from the area as soon as Iraq is disciplined are evidently intended to allay apprehensions about a permanent U.S.-Western Gulf presence just south of the Soviet border.

The agreement on developing long-term regional security structures, once the present crisis is resolved, should (according to neutral commentators) alert the non-aligned States to take the initiative to devise such structures on their own.

American spokesman feel that the two leaders had agreed on the overall course—the path that the UN chalked out for removing Iraq forces from Kuwait and restoring the legitimate government in Kuwait. Meanwhile, the Emir of Kuwait appealed, from his place of exile in Saudi Arabia, to all countries to adopt decisive measures to end the Iraqi occupation of his territory.

Libya's plan for ending crisis: The Government of Libya stated on September 8 that Saudi Arabia's King Fahd had welcomed a Libyan plan to resolve the Gulf crisis, calling for Iraq's withdrawal from most of Kuwait, in return for a strategic island and an oilfield, according to a report from Nicosia.

The Libyan news agency, JANA, said the plan, of which it gave no

details, was outlined to the Saudi monarch by Col Mustafa Kharoubi, an envoy of the Libyan leader, Col Muammar Gaddafi, at a meeting in Jeddah.

Kuwait's Foreign Minister said the Libyan plan envisaged Iraq keeping Kuwait's Bubiyan Island at the head of the Gulf and the Kuwaiti half of the Rumeilah oilfield in return for withdrawing from the rest of the Emirate.

(Iraq has long sought control of Bubiyan to expand its narrow outlet to the Gulf, and accused Kuwait of "stealing" from the Rumeilah oilfield protruding into Kuwait from southern Iraq.)

But Kuwait's Sheikh Sabah al-Ahmed al-Sabali rejected the plan, which also involved lifting the U.N. embargo against Iraq.

Iraq's strategy: In retrospect, it is clear that President Saddam Hussein played a subtle game, quietly strengthening his position in Kuwait and placing the world community at a disadvantage by accomplishing his aim in a sudden, speedy stroke. Iraqi President Saddam Hussein masterfully mobilised the international media and riveted world attention on the fate of foreign hostages in Iraq. He quietly strengthened his hand.

In Kuwait, where the Persian Gulf crisis began in August, he consolidated his assets, intensifying what diplomats describe as a large-scale colonisation campaign to settle Iraqis in the opulent villas of Kuwait city that were abandoned by their fleeing occupants. And he maintained his siege of the nearly 30 embassies surviving without electricity, running water or sufficient medical care since defying his order to close down.

At home, the Iraqi President stepped up war preparations nationwide, calling up tens of thousands more civilians for the regular army,

hastening training of the one-million-strong civilian Popular Army and enforcing strict rationing of vital commodities cut off by an international embargo.

Such is the shape of Hussein's evolving battle plan in what has now become a "war of nerves" between himself and the world Powers ranged around him—a propaganda war-staged against the backdrop of a military stalemate.

Formal End of Iraq-Iran War

Playing another trump-card, designed to win over the Iranians and establish his peace motives, President Saddam Hussein has taken steps to formally end the 8-year old Iran-Iraq war (1980-88).

In mid October the Iraqi President announced acceptance of Iran's terms for a settlement of the dispute that led to the disastrous Gulf War. Both are non-aligned countries but the repeated initiatives of the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) leaders to bring the pointless hostilities to an end failed, largely because of the, late Attallah Khomeini's so-called "religious crusade".

On September 9, the Iraqi Foreign Minister, Mr Tariq Aziz, arrived in Teheran at the head of a high-ranking economic and political delegation. He was met at Teheran's Mehrabad international airport by his Iranian counterpart, Mr Ali Akbar Velayati.

Observers believe Mr Aziz's visit will aim at securing supplies of medicines and food to Iraq, suffering from a U.N.-sponsored blockade following its August 2 invasion of Kuwait, and to investigate the possibility of a regional alliance against the US and its friends in West Asia.

Mr Aziz is likely to propose a joint front against the pro-Western Arab countries, mainly Egypt and Saudi Arabia, observers said. They

felt an Iraq-Iran alliance, with Yemen, the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), Sudan and Libya also joining, could even persuade Jordan's King Hussein to enter. Other likely candidates would be Algeria, Tunisia and Mauritania.

The Iraqi president on August 17 agreed to withdraw troops from Iranian territory occupied during the Gulf War.

Political Transformation in Saudi Arabia

Inevitably, the Iraqi military challenge has had its repercussions on the internal political set-up in the distinctly conservative Saudi Arabia, which is next door to Iraq. It is widely believed that Saudi Arabian society is likely to get transformed along with the country's social, military and foreign policies.

In a far-reaching directive King Fahd called upon government authorities to make it easier for women to participate in the fields of nursing, civil and medical assistance programmes.

The directive, made public on September 5, also orders the expansion of the armed forces by opening the way to university graduates to enroll into military training programmes immediately in all branches of the Saudi armed forces.

These moves were part of what appears to a growing mobilisation of Saudi public opinion for what many Saudis believe is an inevitable military clash with Iraq.

Saudi Diplomacy: There is also mounting evidence of a significantly higher profile for Saudi diplomacy in regional politics, with a clear assertiveness of Saudi views within the League of Arab Nations and toward Arab countries like Jordan, Yemen and the Palestine Liberation Organisation, which are believed to have conspired with Iraq.

Meanwhile, there have been close diplomatic contacts between Saudi Arabia and the Soviet Union which has not failed to take advantage of the increasing suspicions and hostility between the Arabs and President Bush. The Saudi Arabian Foreign Minister, Prince Saud al-Faisal, said that he expected early establishment of diplomatic ties with the Soviet Union. There are serious contacts between Saudi Arabia and the Soviet Union. "We expect Riyadh-Moscow official links in a few days", Prince Saud said.

The Saudi Arabian Foreign Minister is scheduled to visit the Soviet Union soon. Commenting on the Helsinki summit between the U.S. President, Mr George Bush, and the Soviet President, Mr Mikhail Gorbachov, Prince Saud said "the two Super Powers continue confirmations to abide by United Nations Security Council resolutions."

The toughening stand of Saudi Arabia in its foreign policy is becoming more evident every day, as is the new alliances the country is forming in the region, primarily with Egypt, Morocco and perhaps Syria against Iraq, the PLO, Jordan and Yemen.

Impact on P.L.O.: Reacting sharply to the Big-Power summit resolution, especially the stand taken by the U.S. President, Iraq asserted on September 10 that President Bush had shown his "spite and anger" against the Arabs by refusing to link the settlement of the Gulf crisis with the Palestinian issue which had been hanging fire for several years. The summit verdict, therefore, heightens the tragedy of the Palestinians who have been suffering intensely under Israeli occupation, enforced with U.S. support. While Mr George Bush, according to the Iraqi President, had promoted his imperialist ambitions to control the oil wealth of the region, he had forgotten the sufferings of the Palestinians.

Earlier, the U.S. had cautioned

Mr Yasser Arafat, Chairman of the Palestinian Liberation Organisation, that the latter's adamant posture would do him much harm. So, Mr Arafat should distance himself from the Iraqi tangle. A State Department official told "Asian News International" that the U.S. Administration was expecting strong protests and expressions of concern from US Congress over Mr Arafat's pro-Iraq stand.

The US official said that "we will have to see where the dust settles after the Gulf crisis". But pointing to P.L.O.'s vote against the Arab League decision in Cairo for enforcing economic and military blockade of Iraq, the U.S. official said: "Yes, there will be repercussions", Washington does see the Palestinians as "traditional friends" of Iraq and the P.L.O. as having received financial support from President Saddam Hussein. US officials contend that PLO could have taken a muted stand.

Another issue is the growing Palestinian uprising in Israeli-occupied West Bank and Gaza, which has turned from hundreds to thousands of protestors since President Hussein's call to the US to ask Israel to withdraw from occupied territories as a pre-condition to Iraqi withdrawal from Kuwait.

Union of two Koreas now Certain

The widely welcomed decision of the people of East Germany and West Germany to forge unity of the two parts of the country from the first week of October has had welcome repercussions in Korea. It is widely believed that as a result of top-level talks between the leaders of the two Koreas, a union will emerge within a few weeks. Thus these two post-war enemies will, in effect, "do a Germany".

The visit of the North Korean Prime Minister, accompanied by a

strong military delegation to Seoul, the South Korean capital, aroused much worldwide interest and speculation. It was the highest level North-South contact since the Korean War. It is expected that the talks will be followed by another round late in October and then, possibly, by a Kim Il Sung-Roh Tae Woo summit.

Neither North Korea's internal policies nor its political rhetoric suggest that its leaders are about to gamble on Perestroika. They desperately need credits, technology and respectability, but want these without yielding an inch to foreign influences.

The startling change in Soviet-South Korean relations, marked by the meeting between Mr Mikhail Gorbachov and the South Korean President, Mr Roh Tae Woo, in June seems to be pushing through North Korean Policy.

West German-Soviet agreement: On September 7, the West German and Soviet governments hammered out the basis of an agreement on the withdrawal of 3,80,000 Soviet troops from East Germany in an 18-hour marathon negotiations.

The two governments agreed on the outline of a financial accord on the troops withdrawal, but fell short of agreement on the sum West Germany will provide to re-locate Soviet troops.

China Warns of Global Unrest

While the Soviet Union and many of the East European Republics have already resolved, officially or unofficially, to disown communism and socialism, China still pursues the traditional orthodox line and refuses to march with the times. The Beijing authorities have refused to learn any lesson from the massive pro-democracy demonstrations and marches staged by Chinese

youth over a year ago. The Chinese leaders have also rejected the Perestroika doctrine practices as adopted by the Soviet Union under the leadership of President Gorbachov.

Early in September the authoritative newspaper "Beijing Review" cautioned again that if China gives up socialism, the ensuing inequalities, disorder and civil war would force tens of millions of refugees into neighbouring countries and cause international unrest.

In an editorial headed "China's stability—a responsibility to the world", the review said that after the rapid changes in Eastern Europe, some foreigners had hoped that China would follow suit in the belief that "socialism had come to an end". However, it said, China's achievements under 40 years of socialism "are without comparison in old China and by no means inferior to other countries under similar conditions but practising capitalism".

It added that if China, with a population of 1.1 billion, gave up socialism, it would lead to polarisation between the rich and the poor and that even if 100 million became wealthy, it would leave a billion in poverty. The weekly said the overwhelming majority would never let this happen and that the motive of many people who joined last year's turmoil in Beijing was actually anti-capitalist but some "plotters" were demanding capitalism.

End of two more Dictatorships

Following the winds of democracy currently blowing almost all over the world, two more notorious dictatorships are to end in the near future.

After ruling Indonesia with an iron hand for more than 20 years, the President, Mr Suharto, is cautiously easing the political restrictions. But

critics say the move does not go far enough to stem swelling demands for greater equity and pluralism.

Ever since he came to power in 1967 after a Communist-led coup attempt in 1965, Mr Suharto and the military-dominated regime have restricted political freedom saying economic development cannot take place without political stability. The results, at least on the economic front, have been impressive. This became known on September 5. It needs to be noted that political dissidents have recently become more vocal in criticising social inequities in the country.

Change in Sudan: The President of the Sudanese Revolutionary Command Council, General Omar El Beshir, announced early in September that the Sudanese Army would transfer power to the people in the immediate future. After 30 years of dictatorship and a single party system, we are convinced that the people are capable of managing their affairs themselves, the General said during an address to the Libyan People's General Congress.

He said consultations were currently underway in Sudan to enable power to be transmitted to the people of the country. The struggle for power had cost all Sudanese dearly.

U.S. Opts Out of Afghan War

Reliable reports from Washington indicate that the U.S. has opted out of the last battle of the Cold War in which it was engaged for many years. It has finally decided to terminate its involvement in Afghanistan and has adopted the line now chosen; in a U-turn of policy the U.S. has renounced the "Resistance" it had backed for long and has virtually accepted the regime in Phnom Penh. Afghanistan and Cambodia were seen as Soviet interventions either

directly (in case of Afghanistan) or indirectly via Vietnam (in case of Cambodia). An important aspect is that the Americans are freeing themselves from the "extra baggage" of a such resistance leaders as Pol Pot in Cambodia and Gulbadin Hekmatyar in Afghanistan.

The U.S. Senate Intelligence Committee has recommended that covert aid to the Afghan Mujahideen for the fiscal year beginning October 1, 1990, be slashed by one-third. So the figure of U.S. aid of (\$300 million, the figure promised this year) will be cut by \$100 million to \$200 million. This is the first time there has been a cut in American assistance to the Mujahideen since May, 1979, when the CIA launched its covert action programme in Afghanistan in support of the Mujahideen and in cooperation with Pakistan's Inter-Services Intelligence.

The chief objective, which the Americans had set before themselves in Afghanistan, namely the withdrawal of Soviet troops, has long been accomplished. As the Americans say, "our patience and money won't last indefinitely if all that we see is an Afghan civil War." Even the nature of the Afghan conflict has been transformed from a proxy war between the Super Powers to a festering ideological and sectarian conflict.

Pakistan itself has agreed to the phased repatriation of Afghan refugees under U.N. auspices, thereby delinking the humanitarian aspects from the political questions in the Afghan conflict. This change has come despite stiff opposition from the Mujahideen leaders based in Pakistan most of whom have denounced it as a "betrayal". Even the international humanitarian assistance for Afghan refugees is drying up. The fact of the matter is that Pakistan's Afghan policy has been overtaken by events both in our vicinity and in the broader international domain.

All-out Offensive in Lanka

The highly destructive civil war in Sri Lanka continues, with Government forces determined to capture all areas occupied by the militants and eliminate LTTE menace. Serial bombing by the air force and other measures have enabled the authorities to occupy Jaffna city and adjacent areas. There have been hundreds of casualties. President Premadasa's repeated efforts for a negotiable settlement, with LTTE have failed. The economy of the island has been ruined as a sequel to the continuing crisis.

LTTE Seeks Division of Lanka: The war being fought in Sri Lanka between the Tamil Tigers and the Government forces continues with short breaks. LTTE has lately been suffering heavy casualties but the prospects of a settlement have receded because of LTTE leaders' declaration that they will continue fighting until their goal of Eelam—an independent State for the Tamil speaking people, carved out of the island republic, is achieved. This was made clear by the General Secretary of the Tigers political wing—for the first time since hostilities broke out between the Tigers and the Sri Lankan Government.

Accusing the Sri Lankan Government and President Premadasa of "insincerity", he warned that "we are a determined lot of people and we will fight to the very end". He added that Colombo had shown bad faith by keeping up its army in the north and east, even when the negotiations were going on. Anti-LTTE Tamil groups in Sri Lanka are trying to resolve their differences to ensure that exploitation of the schism within the Tamil community by the Sri Lankan Government does not mean end of the concessions granted to them by the 1987 Indo-Sri Lanka Accord.

A major issue is the govern-

ment's attempts to delink the temporarily merged northern and eastern provinces. In fact, from the days of the former President Jayewardene, Colombo's argument against the merger of the two provinces had greatly worried the Muslims in the east. The Muslims had been encouraged by the Government to seek a separate council for themselves. The Tamil groups are hoping to convince the Muslims that they could have an autonomous council within the North-Eastern provincial administration.

If the SLMC, TULF and the EPRLF come to an agreement on this, it would not be difficult to get the PLOTE, ENDLF and TELO to agree to the suggestion. Every Tamil group agrees that both the ruling United National Party and the opposition are together in their determination to stop the merger of the two provinces.

Bid for new Economic Order

India and Brazil have been held up as outstanding examples of developing countries which had achieved a high degree of sophistication in technology; their examples showed what other Third World countries could do if they cooperated among themselves. This was done by Mr Andres Perez, who hosted a crucial session of the South Commission consisting of chief executives and other eminent personalities of the developing world at Caracas (Venezuela).

The former Tanzanian President, Mr Julius Nyerere, is head of the commission and India's Dr Man Mohan Singh is Secretary-General. The eighties have been described as "the evil, perverse decade" for Latin America and some of the other countries whose GNP fell during that period. The South is now determined to see that this does not happen again. The importance of establish-

ing a new economic order, which was now heavily tilted in favour of the developed countries, in institutions like the International Monetary Fund (IMF) has been emphasised.

The Venezuelan President urged that the developing countries must give up the habit of always looking up to the North and deal with their problems through self-reliance and cooperation with other developing countries.

There must also be common negotiating positions in the South, as the industrialised countries of the North had in international negotiations. "We have recognised our errors and our deficiencies."

There are great possibilities of South-South cooperation, which had been held back by lack of communication among the developing countries.

Africans Give up Violence

A significant step forward to facilitate the early end of apartheid and introduction of reforms in South Africa was taken when the African National Congress (ANC) announced that it had suspended its armed struggle with immediate effect. However, it pledged its campaign against apartheid will continue uninterrupted. The announcement came after lengthy talks between the South African President, Mr F.W. de Klerk, and the ANC leader, Dr Nelson Mandela. In a joint statement the two leaders spoke of a commitment to work for a peaceful solution.

The ANC launched its armed struggle 30 years ago after it was banned by the white racist regime. The suspension of the struggle is of symbolic importance to President de Klerk who may now try to appease the hard core right-wing whites towards his political reforms. There were sharp exchanges on the role of the police. An agreement was reached on the definition of political prisoners to be freed in the phased

programme of release. The Pretoria regime would review various security laws; it has lifted the state of emergency in the Natal region.

The talks appeared to have removed obstacles to full negotiations and the ANC would soon hold exploratory talks on how to go about in drawing up a new Constitution.

The S. African Government has also agreed to scrap immediately certain security legislation, particularly the Internal Security Act which impedes free political activity and makes membership of a communist party illegal.

Despite intense pressure from the Government and many Western nations anxious for a peaceful settlement, Mandela insisted there would be no ceasefire until the Government made equal concessions. The agreement has been widely welcomed.

N-free World Improbable

Chancellor Kohl of West Germany has rejected any idea of a world without a nuclear deterrent. He asserts that "a minimum of nuclear weapons" is necessary to "guarantee our security into the future". The weapons are necessary in the global concept, he said while addressing the Inter-parliamentary Disarmament Conference in Bonn.

According to Mr Kohl, it is "a utopian demand to seek a world free from nuclear weapons". He described those wanting to do away with nuclear weapons as "the great simplists". After all, nuclear deterrent had been responsible for ensuring the longest period of peace in recent history. However, he was silent on the suggestion to replace short-range nuclear missiles located in his country by airborne tactical missiles.

This is being interpreted to mean that the West German Government is manoeuvring to have the nuclear missiles removed from German soil.

Bonn's real worry is the Soviet objections on the issue in the conventional arms negotiations in Vienna.

Deep Turmoil in Pakistan

During the past few weeks almost all parts of Pakistan, especially those active in Islamabad, Lahore and Karachi, have been gripped by political uncertainty and horse trading of the worst kind. The general election is at present fixed for October 24, and the indications are that no serious move will be made by President Ishaq Khan or other political leaders to postpone the election. As a result, there has been hectic activity in all major cities because on the result of the elections depends the future of Pakistan and its people.

Fresh political alliances and groupings are being forged and each political party has been trying to finalise its list of poll candidates. There has been intense bargaining over nominations, with many claimants for each crucial seat. As usual, there are threats of breaking away and of factionalism if any party denies the eagerly sought mandate by the aspirants.

Mr Nawaz Sharif's IJI, like other parties, is also facing difficulties in selecting its nominees. It wants to accommodate some of the PPP members who defected to the IJI recently but this is being resented by those who stood by it through thick and thin.

All the members of the nine-party IJI alliance who won in the 1988 election have staked their claim and just behind them are those members of the party who were runners-up to the PPP victors in that poll.

The IJI has decided to make its parliamentary board the final arbiter for the selection of candidates. To avoid further dissensions, the IJI is attempting to secure assurances from all prospective candidates that they will abide by the parliamentary board's decisions.

The ousted PPP is working quietly but earnestly. It has already entered into an electoral alliance with the Tehrik-i-Istiqlal of former Air Marshal Asgar Khan. It hopes to rope in the Awami National Party (ANP) of Khan Abdul Wali Khan, which has developed differences over the allocation of seats with the IJI.

Bid to disqualify Benazir: A highly disconcerting move, which might ruin the prospects of early restoration of democracy, is the cleverly hatched conspiracy to disqualify Benazir Bhutto from contesting the elections. Several references have been made before a special tribunal in Karachi against the deposed Prime Minister. There are allegations, supported by apparently convincing evidence, of fraud, deception, misuse of authority as well as downright corruption. Cases have also been filed against Benazir's husband, father-in-law and some other members of the family.

Badly cornered Benazir is reported to have started secret negotiations with certain leaders of the Pakistan Army. The caretaker Government in Islamabad is virtually paralysed and all effective power is being exercised by the President. In fact, a fresh political crisis may develop in Pakistan well before the planned elections.

A London newspaper, quoting an unnamed highly placed source, has stated that Benazir Bhutto's Pakistan People's Party and the army have already started senior-level dialogue. It appears that Benazir Bhutto's hostile remarks against the army (she had accused the military of having contributed to her dismissal by President Ishaq Khan) are being glossed over. She has sent signals of reconciliation to the army.

According to other sources, the army commanders would be left with no choice but to impose Martial Law if the current economic and political problems facing the ineffective caretaker government continue.

ECONOMIC SCENE

MNCs AND INDIA

Q. Are multinational corporations in India a boon or a bane? Discuss this in the context of the industrial development policy recently announced by the government.

Ans. The role of the multinational corporations (MNCs) in India has, for long, been debated before and after Independence. Without going into the historical perspective here, it can still be said that there is a sharp division both among the official and non-official circles about the role of foreign investments today in the economy. The present controversy triggered off with the liberalisation of the industrial policies which are perceived as disincentives to intending foreign investors, even non-resident Indians.

While the governments in the past kept private foreign capital under leash on ideological and other grounds and preferred loans from international financial organisations, the National Front government finds it difficult to follow the same line. It has decided to liberalize the entry of the foreign capital. The compulsive circumstances that have forced the change may be summed up thus: whopping budgetary deficits, adverse balance of payments, aid squeeze, high debt servicing cost on commercial borrowing.

Faced with such a situation, the NF government is left with no option but to woo foreign private investment to augment the limited resources needed for growth and development which would otherwise stagnate. It is an eclectic approach.

The foreign private investment would lead to technological upgradation, productive asset formation, income/employment generation. Multinationals can help producers to market goods in the world markets. It

is argued that the MNCs have introduced quality consciousness or a culture of excellence in this country. To cap all this, the MNCs will act as catalysts to improve the country's exports and help tide over the current foreign exchange problems.

In the international finance a 51 per cent equity stake is of the utmost importance. Therefore, if any MNC wants to have that degree of risk, the government should allow it subject to the condition that the exports will be doubled to narrow down the external deficits.

Arguments advanced on the opposite side are: it is alleged, for instance, that MNCs sell second rate technology to India which does not help improve the competitive capability of the industries in the international market. It is felt by some that India has reached almost the saturation point in technology and cannot absorb any additional technology. The multinationals invest in low priority sectors, where the prospects for profitability are expected to be high, regardless of India's interests. They create brain drain in the country by luring away the talented persons to run the complex industrial structure and the growing hi-tech sector.

The outflow of foreign exchange either as dividends, royalties, imports or other payments is a drain on our resources. As an antidote to this, various measures (some unacceptable to MNCs) have been adopted. The transfer of technology and the foreign investments, on the one side, and of repayments as dividends etc., on the other, have resulted in a net gain to the country. Mr Amitava Ghosh, Deputy Governor, Reserve Bank of India, says that countries which have encouraged direct foreign investment in the last forty years have consistently out performed those which have not.

He suggests that the present foreign investment policy, which is selective, time-consuming and less transparent should be reviewed. After the norms for equity investment upto 40 per cent and beyond have been fixed, the investment should be automatic in specified areas and give full autonomy to the MNCs in decision-making. Critics of this approach have characterised it as a 'sell-out'.

OIL IMBROGLIO

Q. "Petroleum squeeze is a swing factor in the Indian economy." Explain.

Ans. I. The problem: Since the historic oil shocks in 1973 and 1979, the oil-importing developing countries are faced with the twin problem of supply and demand management. At present, it is a question of bridging the widening deficit in petroleum and petroleum products which is compounded by the equally worrisome balance of payments situation.

The demand for petroleum products has increased from about 39 million ton in 1984-85 to 54 million ton in 1989-90 and is expected to grow to around 78 million ton by 1994-95 at an annual growth rate of 7.6 per cent. Projections of oil consumptions are that it will cross 100 million ton mark by 1999-2000 A.D.

The oil import bill in 1990-91 will be Rs 8600 crore as against Rs 6400 crore last year, given the normal growth rate. India cannot afford to spend so much foreign exchange on crude oil alone. The way out is either to step up indigenous production, which is unlikely or to curtail consumption. The former is a long-term measure, the latter a short-term one. The government has adopted a package of measures to contain the rising consumption trend. These measures are expected to yield a five per cent or 2.8 million ton reduction in consumption—a saving in import expenditure

of Rs 850 crore.

II. Consumption Curbs: In a bid to squeeze the consumption of petroleum and petroleum products, the government has mounted a two-pronged attack on the price front; and second on the non-price front. The first set of measures had the twin objective to raise revenues through an oil price hike as a part of the fiscal measures to raise the administered prices of goods. The finance minister jacked up the prices of petrol, high speed diesel and aviation turbine fuel in his budget for 1990-91 with a view to reducing pressure on import bill. This was a regressive measure and had an inflationary potential. The past experience should have been taken as an incontrovertible evidence that petrol etc is inelastic to price. It is nothing short of self-delusion to believe that any increase in its price would tend to depress the demand.

The non-price measures, or what may be called a "save oil drive", became necessary in the prevailing scenario in the country. It is problematical however whether the steps taken will be enough to meet the situation.

Drastic steps to curb the consumption of petrol include limited working hours for the retail dealers of petrol. The petrol pumps are open on Sundays for five hours (from 7 a.m. to 12 noon) and on all other days for 12 hours (from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.). The Central government ministries/departments as well as the State governments have been called upon to curtail the consumption of petrol/diesel in the public vehicles by a margin of 20 per cent in 1990-91 over 1989-90. Similarly, the State road transport corporations are to make a ten per cent cut in consumption of petroleum products over that of the last year. The kerosene allocation for the monsoon, industrial use, to LPG users has been reduced. The diesel demand of the railway is to be reduced by ten per cent this year compared to the last year's. The power plants are required to use 10 per cent less petroleum than the average take-off during the last three years.

Both sets of measures are

directed to demand management. The supply aspect goes by default which, in fact, provides the enduring solution of the vexatious problem. But if that means more exploration of the oil-belt, digging of oil wells, refining the crude etc., it would involve huge investment of both time and money. It is a long-term measure.

Questions arise: Will the curbs not constrain growth? Will they not reduce the mobility of men and materials? It is difficult to believe that a 'climate of austerity' will be infused by these short-term measures.

ECONOMY IN 1990s

Q. "India's economy appears to be heading for a difficult period during the early 1990s" (World Bank). What are the ways out of the impasse?

Aus. India will have a tough time in 1990s. This observation has been made in the annual report on the performance of the Indian economy presented by the World Bank at the recent Aid India Consortium meet.

While the average annual GDP growth rate was 5.6 per cent during 1980-89, it is estimated to decline to 5.2 per cent during 1989-2000 according to the World Development Report, 1990. The real GDP per capita growth rate was 3.5 per cent which would marginally fall to 3.4 per cent in the corresponding periods. This is enough to reduce poverty, says the Bank.

With the past performance, more dynamic economy should emerge in the nineties but the macro-economic imbalances—fiscal deficits, chronic adverse balance of payments, uncomfortable debt burdens—pose the most serious threat to the economy. The World Bank is sceptical about India's decision to attain 5.5 per cent growth rate during the eighth plan period.

Profligacy in public spending has enlarged the public sector deficit to about 8.9 per cent of the GDP. This must be squeezed to about 5 per cent. The Union finance minister is determined to contain the deficit to the budgeted figure but certain policy decisions and compulsions may defeat his efforts. It needs to be pointed out that simultaneous with

prudence in consumption expenditure effective steps should be taken to step up resource mobilisation through better tax compliance. If the projected reduction of 1.4 per cent of GDP in the current Union budget deficit is achieved, it would, according to the Bank, be a significant achievement.

The aggregate domestic demand should not be allowed to spill over into the balance of payments and financed by foreign savings. For, this has pushed up the prices as well as the debt burden, internal and external.

The growth strategy which placed great reliance on capital-intensive and import-intensive industrial sectors has not generated employment, as expected, and is called for a re-orientation to close the gap between the rich and the poor.

Despite the excellent export performance, the current account deficit in 1989-90 was 3.3 per cent of GDP or 7.7 billion dollar. The industrial production also suffered a set-back. The overall growth turned out to be 4.6 per cent. India needs to restore balance to the economy.

The industrial and export liberalisation, judicious imports of only essential goods, open-door policy for the private foreign investment, flexible approach to exchange rate management, increase in public savings through resource generation by the public sector enterprises to ensure at least a three per cent return on the invested capital, rationalisation of the tax system and simplification of procedures are some of the policy reforms to be undertaken by the present government. One can only hope that the desired goals will be achieved.

To reduce the burden of borrowing during the early 1990s on the economy's long-term growth prospects, the Bank feels that an increase in the aid by the Consortium was necessary. This has actually not come about. On the other side, the NF government is in no mood to approach the IMF or the IBRD for extending aid because that would mean burdening the economy with more debts rather than reducing them.

Advertisement Blitz & Family Life

"Intensive advertisement blitz over the media is causing havoc to harmony in family life" was one of the topics set for essay in the Reserve Bank of India Staff Officers', Grade A, Examination held this year.

Advertisements of various consumer goods, especially luxuries and conveniences, seem to dominate many television and radio programmes as well as the newspapers. While advertisements serve a social and economic purpose since they are essential for promoting sales and thus expediting development of industries, they also make a distinct impact on consumers in general and family life in particular. In modern times, especially since the dawn of the computer age, advertisements have become very attractive and have an irresistible appeal.

Young boys and girls, besides the housewife, are greatly impressed by the new products—cosmetics, soaps, modes of conveyance, the latest artificial fabrics and dresses, time-saving devices in the kitchen and numerous other articles. Since their appeal is intense, even irresistible, modern youth make insistent demands on their parents for purchase of such articles. The manufacturers make all sorts of claims for their goods—economy, utility, result of latest technology, etc.

Purchases of sophisticated continuously advertised goods certainly upset the family budget, except in the case of a small percentage of very rich people who can afford to buy luxuries and conveniences without feeling the financial burden. There is consequently a constant, often bitter and tension-ridden tug-of-war in the family. The parents naturally resist the ceaseless demands of their growing children. The latter, in turn, feel sore when they are not given the money they seek for

purchasing the latest advertised goods, regardless of the fact whether their parents can afford to pay for them or not.

While the younger generation is anxious to adopt the latest fashions (they do not want to be left behind in the race for modernism and for keeping up with the Jones's), the elders regard it all as a waste of money. Even without the tussle for modern consumer goods there are tensions enough between the elders of the family and the youngsters. The advertising blitz has added to these tensions. What is more, there is little hope of such tensions decreasing with the passage of time.

It is obvious that the advertisement blitz is doing havoc to harmony in family life. The family income in most cases is limited and the soaring prices of goods cause a deep dent in the budget. Cases are known of parents feeling compelled to take loans and advances from their offices for meeting the expenditure being incurred by their offspring. This expenditure threatens to mount still further with the wide publicity given to the latest consumer articles so eagerly sought by the young people in particular.

Advertisements through TV, the radio and the newspapers are essential, even indispensable, for the success and prosperity of industry. Since industrial progress depends on advertising, it has been said that the quantum of advertisements in the media of a country is by itself an index of its economic progress. It is also believed that advertisements on a large scale ensure the maintenance of quality of the goods widely marketed. There is intense competition in the industrial world (except in the few cases where there is a monopoly of a certain sophisticated product or con-

venience). The countrywide advertising campaigns of manufacturing firms selling packed and standardised goods have virtually transformed certain trades, such as grocery, to the benefit of the consumer. Reputed firms hold their leading positions through constant advertising, regardless of the cost which they recover from the consumer anyway.

Domestic harmony is also threatened when a frequently advertised product, bought on the insistence of a youngster or the housewife, turns out to be substandard and of poor quality. The master of the household frets and fumes over the implicit waste of hard-earned money, but the deed is done and the loss cannot be made up. Goods advertised through the media are at times deceptive; they even turn out to be fake or contain irrelevant, harmful substances. But the shopkeepers care little for a husband's or a housewife's complaints about the poor quality of the articles bought. The cash memos issued by the sellers at the time of the transaction bears the printed warning: "goods once sold will not be returned". So the buyer is helpless.

But no lessons are learnt for the future; not long after the unhappy experience the demands for new purchases of other freshly advertised articles are renewed. Of course not all the articles of consumption for which an advertisement blitz is launched are bad or poor in quality. Many of them do turn out to be highly useful, even if expensive, appliances. The housewife and the young boys and girls point repeatedly to the good quality, durable goods to strengthen their argument that the latest articles be bought, domestic harmony or no harmony. For the sake of avoiding resentment and bad tempers the

bread earner of the family yields to pressure again, and so the process goes on.

The prospective buyers repeatedly try to reinforce their case by arguments and suggestions, the basis for which is furnished by the testimonials given by cinema stars or famous cricket players on TV and the radio, assuring all and sundry that their beauty, performance, physical fitness and glamour are maintained with the continuous use of a certain type of facial or shaving cream or other cosmetics and tonics.

A cynic once remarked that the impact of commercial advertising on the sensitive and highly receptive minds, especially of young boys and girls, is so great and induces such passivity and acquiescence that they would be inclined to accept the odd proposition that moon is made of cheese. We begin to lose our sense of proportion, become highly credulous and are carried away by the manufacturers' persistent publicity.

Jealousy and the effort, especially by women, not to be left behind in the race for a higher standard of living in their area constitute yet another factor in creating disharmony. When a person who may happen to be prosperous, or even corrupt, and is able to buy the latest advertised articles with ill-gotten money (black market or bribery), his or her neighbour begins to "burn" with envy. "Why can't we", the psychologically hurt woman asks her honest lower middle class husband, "buy this and that which the neighbour has"?

Comparisons and contrasts with others' standard of living, modes of dress of their children and of grown up women themselves, provoke classmates, friends and colleagues. Thus, even honest people are compelled to resort to underhand means to supplement their incomes with a view to meeting the demands of their family members.

Domestic pressures, stemming from comparisons and allied factors, lead to rationalisation of surrender to the temptations to accept bribes. The

tribe of bribe-givers is quite large, and the number of those who fall in the trap is also growing—mostly a sequel to the consumer culture, which in turn is promoted by the advertisement blitz. Week after week, lakhs of people fall victims to the advertising blitz on the media. This blitz has certainly ruined many families and made countless people unhappy because of the effect it has on them.

Another notable effect of the advertisement blitz is the encouragement, through suggestion and presentation of glamorous personalities, to conspicuous consumption by families. Since the advertising campaigns are meant to promote sales of luxury goods (necessaries are seldom advertised), a dismal sequel is the creation of social imbalances at various levels. Following the patronage extended by the affluent sections to sellers of luxuries, a new class has emerged. This presents a striking contrast.

At one end of the spectrum there are affluent people possessing all sorts of modern gadgets, electronic devices for entertainment, several conveniences, and also "rare" articles for display in drawing-rooms—in sum the "haves". At the other end (of course there is no clear demarcation) are the lower middle classes and the poor—the deprived sections who cannot afford to buy any of the advertised articles and who can barely feed and clothe themselves and their children. The contrast in the life-styles and standards becomes too glaring to be ignored. Consequently there is heart-burning among the "have-nots". The children of the latter class begin to view the well-off people and their alluring possessions, with envy. They begin to wonder at the injustice done by God in favouring one small section of His own creations and virtually ignoring the teeming millions who have perforce to lead a hand-to-mouth existence even while the favoured section lives amidst luxuries which the masses cannot even dream of. Such social imbalances, one piling upon another, inevitably breed social unrest. In due course, such unrest, dis-

contentment and the sense of grievance lead to agitations against the ruling classes. They are blamed for failing to ensure an equitable distribution of resources, in other words, social and economic justice.

Where there is a perpetual sense of grievance, there cannot be happiness or harmony. It is axiomatic that there should be a rational balance not only in the production of goods, luxuries and semi-luxuries but also in the consumption of such goods. Moreover, there is the log-rolling or chain effect of conspicuous consumption in society promoted by well-sustained advertising campaigns. More consumption of, say, motor cars and scooters requires better roads, better facilities for service of vehicles, more mechanics and repair staff—all for the benefit of the affluent section of society often at the cost of the basic necessities of life.

There is, consequently, a misdirection of limited resources in a poor country like India. As a realist commented recently, a poor country has to choose between the production of more and better motor-cars, refrigerators and air-conditioners on the one hand, and provision of more and cheaper shelter, more cloth of the less expensive variety which the masses can afford and mid-day meals for poor children. It is indeed a sorry reflection on our sense of priorities that while millions in this country do not get even two square meals a day, conspicuous consumption and wasteful expenditure, including the waste of food in five-star hotels, is increasing. Little attention is paid to this irony.

There is the almost eternal dilemma of weighing private against public consumption. A multiplicity of influences work on the choice in this regard made by the rulers. As things are, only the rich can afford to contest elections to Parliament. Moreover, the group in power is under obligations to the leading industrialists who sponsor the advertisement blitz in the media. So there seems to be no practical remedy for the situation.

Jobs: With or Without Degrees?

There is a world-wide crisis in education. The symptoms are either the outbursts of violence, or indifference or permissiveness of the student groups. Whatever the variations in the expression of the crisis, there is a tremendous unity in the aspirations of the student-world. Youth is fighting for a new education based on freedom, creativity, equality and fellowship. A new consciousness is dawning on students that the new education cannot be achieved by arranging a few seminars or by holding elite conferences, as has been the approach in India, so far, unless the existing social structures are broken down. We in India have been talking loud about changing the basic concept of education so that education becomes a channel of creative, transformative and informative instrument rather than producing an army of 'litrates' holding high their degrees and swelling the registers of the 'educated unemployed'.

In order to reduce pressure on institutions of higher learning, a proposal to delink jobs from degrees has been in the air for quite some time. How to implement it without effecting the quality and efficiency of services is the moot point? Commission after commission has indulged in debate; discussion and deliberation on the issue but nothing concrete and practicable has come out. The idea has been conceived by many but the birth of a tangible policy is still a far cry.

There is no denying the fact that some dwarfish distortions have appeared in the attitudes of our educated youth, some of whom are obsessively in love with a degree. The traditional education system, barring a few patch-work changes here and there during the last forty years or so, is creating more and more frustration

among the majority of students, who see nothing but darkness at the other end of the tunnel. They painfully realise that the academic degrees for which they spend the best part of their youth are becoming worthless bits of paper in the present ever-changing socio-economic scenario.

The National Front government has appointed a committee under the Chairmanship of Acharya Ramamurti to review the education policy with special reference to: The workability of neighbourhood school policy, delinking of degrees from jobs, privatisation of university education and using education as a tool for national reconstruction.

John Kenneth Galbraith once said that 'economy is too important to be left to the economist alone' and Acharya Ramamurti feels "education is too important to be left to educationists". He sees education as a welfare activity but the question that is uppermost in every thinking being is how to make the youth, specially the educated youth, an instrument of change and usefulness to the society as also to himself.

When the idea of delinking jobs from degrees or vice versa, was first thrown up for cool consideration, the author might have missed the true import and implications of his proposal because for a country of India's size and multiplicity, where jobs are few and job-seekers are manifold, the criterion to make a fair selection of suitable candidates, is, if not impossible, fairly difficult. So far the method of recruitment to various categories of jobs, technical as well as non-technical has been done on the basis of a degree. In case the requirement of a degree is eliminated or dispensed with, how are we going to determine eligibility-cum-suitability,

is the crux of the problem. Would this not encourage back-door entry and other related malpractices?

One of the practical suggestions made by a voluntary organisation 'Citizens for Democracy' is that we can immediately go in for delinking jobs from degrees for all subordinate posts by making recruitments on the basis of a candidate's performance in class X or XII examinations, with supplementary tests, where necessary. In the year (1989-90) examination for 10 + 2 (Plus two) conducted by C.B.S.E., some schools, in consultation with and consent of G.I.C., had students on their rolls with additional papers in subjects on insurance business. On having passed the said examination, they were straight-away offered jobs by the Corporation. This experiment of delinking jobs from degrees could also be considered and tried by other corporations, banks, autonomous bodies etc. This innovative step can be carried forward if the will and wisdom are there on the part of those who make policies.

Change in education has to come because the success of restructuring of society wholly depends on a healthy educational system which in its turn brings forth the potential of its youth. The mounting disparities between various sections of the people and unemployment can no longer be ignored. The energy generated from their sense of alienation has to be tapped by taking bold and pragmatic steps in education. A man can be illiterate and yet educated. The various myths about formal education and degrees have to be removed. The passion for a degree and an obsession 'to have a degree' needs to be cured before the evil becomes unmanageable and intractable. The inertia and indifference that 'time will find a solution after all' have to be exploded and axed before it becomes too late.

End of the Cold War— Impact on India

Radical changes have taken place in the international arena during recent months. Decades-old rivalries between the Super Powers, together with the all-out research for military bases, political proteges and vulnerable puppet regimes, have become a story of yesterday. The Cold War has ended. The Iron Curtain has been lifted; the fortress of apartheid has been breached, the Berlin Wall demolished.

War-mongers have almost overnight been transformed into votaries of peace, which of course means considerable relief for the suffering millions in many continents. The armaments race has been halted too; when there are no adversaries, no enemies and no hostile military blocs, what purpose will the feverishly manufactured weapons, nuclear and conventional, serve?

Inevitably, the termination of the Cold War will involve changes and adjustments in India's foreign policy. By all accounts, the Non-aligned Movement has lost its thrust and relevance.

This Special Feature recounts the recent developments and assesses the probable course of developments in the last decade of the 20th century.

I. Introduction

For the poor, peace-loving millions around the world the four decades of the Cold War, which were characterised by subtle military and political strategies of the Super Powers, a ruinous race for destructive armaments and establishment of military bases on distant lands and across the seas, meant a harrowing time. While the armaments industry of the giant Powers—the U.S.A. and the Soviet Union—flourished, the un-

developed and under-developed countries were denied the economic aid they so badly needed to feed the starving millions, because of the constantly mounting military budgets of the Big Powers whose priorities and perceptions were tuned to the self-imposed responsibility of countering the rivals' strategies and manoeuvres.

The building up of frightening stockpiles of sophisticated weapons of destruction became an essential constituent of the troubled years—a virtual nightmare to countless people. True, these four decades were largely free of major ruinous and direct conflicts between the Big Powers. But proxy wars were frequently fought in such explosive areas as West Asia and Latin America as part of the drive for enlarging their respective spheres of influence and extending their protective umbrellas to as many tiny, helpless States as possible.

The subtle devices adopted by the Big Two during the Cold War for outbidding each other included offers of generous economic and military aid (the tiny States are always hungry for both, regardless of the erosion of their sovereignty and independence). In their all-out efforts for survival in a dangerous world, and for warding off the threats frequently posed by their traditional political rivals across their borders, they would go to any extent. Jealousies were given full play in the Middle East, for instance. It was a question of "honour", they said, and for that no sacrifice was too heavy.

Amidst such conditions of gnawing insecurity, secret agencies, especially the U.S.A.'s notorious C.I.A. (which has a massive budget running into billions of dollars) had a field day. They were known for inciting na-

tions, toppling "non-cooperative" regimes, backing pliant dictators, propping up dummy regimes and stretching their stranglehold by hook or crook. Unfortunately, several countries in Latin America, West Asia and the Far East fell victims to the "Dirty Tricks Department" of the U.S.A., in particular. The Soviet Union's KGB was less active and less resourceful but it subtly pursued Communist aims and ideology all the same.

All this has now become a part of modern history. There are new lines of thinking, new approaches and revised priorities.

However, even in the transformed world there are people who warn against hasty changes in policy and too rapid a switch from the manufacture of guns to the casting of ploughshares or more production of food in the belief that there will not be any war anywhere in the next decade. Britain's incorrigible Prime Minister, for instance, still talks of the Communist menace, and the need for maintaining the nuclear shield.

II. Early Signs of New Era

There were indications in the second half of the 1980s of the international tensions, bitterness and the resultant distortions of values, fading away. Although occasional shells were fired by war-mongers and habitual cynics at rival powers, the top leaders softened their attitudes and adopted, by stages, conciliatory postures.

At the first summit between President Bush and Mr Mikhail Gorbachov, held aboard ships off Malta on December 2, 1989, an agreement was reached to make all possible efforts to reduce the tensions and check

the growing threats of conflict in such volatile areas as the Middle East. During the preceding years the former U.S. President was in no mood to slow down, much less halt, the economic war against the Soviet Union. The Malta summit marked the beginning of a new phase, not just in Soviet-American relations but in post-World War II international politics, as a whole.

The previous five summits between the former US President Ronald Reagan and Gorbachov during the short span of 1985-88 saw the lessening of Soviet American confrontation prospects. The two leaders now intend to take Washington and Moscow beyond detente towards a cooperative relationship. The chances of bilateral economic cooperation between the two countries have become brighter. The Malta summit also laid the foundation for probable Soviet-American political cooperation in reshaping the post-war order, at least in Europe.

The building of such a cooperative relationship with the U.S. has been one of the main objectives of the Soviet foreign policy under Mr Gorbachov. His pursuit of this objective, against great odds and worldwide scepticism, has finally started paying dividends.

Second Summit: The second summit between President George Bush and Mr Gorbachov, in Washington (May 30-June 2), ended without any notable achievement. But a significant observation made by Mr Bush was: "The world has waited long enough: the Cold War must end." The summit accord on the quantum of armaments, especially a 30 per cent cut in nuclear arsenals, was on the expected lines.

No agreement could be reached on the controversial regional flash-points, such as Afghanistan, Kashmir, Cambodia, the Middle East and Cuba. Conflicting perceptions on these kept the two leaders apart.

An accord on trade, a long-term grain deal (only symbolic successes)

and the arms pact virtually saved what appeared to be a faltering summit. As for India and Pakistan, Mr Bush called for a dialogue. The Soviet Union, while favouring an early solution, strongly condemned national and international terrorism in Kashmir, Afghanistan and elsewhere. It blamed the U.S. for not living up to its commitments, regarding arms aid to the Afghan rebels, for instance.

The U.S. insistence on German membership of NATO and Moscow's opposition to this expectedly posed a hurdle. But Mr Bush claimed they had "a lot of common ground". The two leaders renewed a pledge to reach a treaty this year (1990) for slashing conventional forces in Europe; they agreed on accords ordering sharp cuts in Super Power chemical weapons stocks, improving verification of nuclear weapons and testing.

III. Reasons for End of Cold War

Just as there were identifiable factors that intensified the tensions and rivalries among the Big Powers, similarly there were specific developments that gradually led to the belated end of the Cold War.

Foremost among these developments were: the changed strategic perceptions of the giant Powers, the U.S. and the Soviet Union.

The change in the assessment of the international situation was necessitated by the parity in nuclear weapons. This parity was followed by the realisation that a nuclear war was unthinkable; neither contestant would be able to win it while both would probably be ruined beyond redemption.

Moreover, in the changed context maintenance of military bases across the seas was futile. Considerable expenditure was being incurred on these bases, especially by the U.S., but the gains were nominal. It was also realised that the regional conflicts and the proxy wars (as in Vietnam, Angola and Afghanistan) had served no purpose but had cost the

Super Powers heavily. The economic drain had proved too much. It was a major cause of the deterioration in the U.S. economy. The U.S. was running record trade and budget deficits. The military commitments in lands situated far away from their capitals had upset the Soviet economy also. This was the basic motive for signing the INF Treaty, the mutual climb-down from the earlier rigid postures during the negotiations for reducing strategic as well as conventional weapons (START and MBFR). It also accounted for the Soviet lead in making repeated offers (followed in some cases by actual implementation) of large reductions in military strength.

IV. Formal End of Cold War

It was left to the NATO leaders, who met in London on July 6 this year, to formally announce that the Cold War has ended. These leaders made the announcement while endorsing a historic peace plan and extending the hand of friendship to East Europe. The Plan aimed at ending the conflict with the WARSAW Pact countries.

The summit communique said: "The Atlantic community must reach out to the nations of the East which were our adversaries in the Cold War and extend the hand of friendship." But the communique added: "To keep the peace, the alliance must maintain forces in Europe and keep them up-to-date"—a phrase incorporated to accommodate the concern of the British Prime Minister, Mrs Thatcher, and the French President, Mr Mitterrand.

The following are the salient features of the London Declaration on a transformed Atlantic alliance: (a) NATO declares nuclear arms to be "weapons of last resort"; (b) NATO cuts US nuclear arms in Europe and limits a united Germany's armed forces (c) NATO will try to persuade a united Germany to become a NATO member; (d) NATO invites the Soviet leader, Mr Gorbachov, to its headquarters in Brussels to address a special meeting of the alliance.

The U.S. President disclosed that he and other NATO leaders had mapped out a new strategy for Europe which he called "a turning point in history". "NATO has set a new path for peace", he told a news conference, "We say to President Gorbachov, 'Come to NATO'; We say to all the member-States of the Warsaw Pact 'Come to NATO'. Asked if the move presaged a bid to the Soviet Union and the East European countries to join the Western alliance, Mr Bush said: "NATO views this as an open invitation and who knows what will happen in terms of membership down the line."

In a landmark declaration the 16 leaders pledged radical reforms to NATO's military forces and a new role for nuclear weapons to reflect a transformed Europe minus the Cold War.

In the communique the NATO leaders said that as the Soviet troops pulled out of the erstwhile Communist nations of Eastern Europe and a conventional arms treaty was implemented, the alliance will field "smaller and restructured active forces" in a fundamental change of strategy. The 35-nation Conference on Security and Cooperation, which encompasses East and West, "should become more prominent in Europe's future, bringing together the countries of Europe and North America."

As for the invitation to East Bloc nations to establish diplomatic ties with NATO, the communique listed the Soviet Union, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Poland, Bulgaria and Romania.

"The walls that once confined people and ideas are collapsing", the NATO leaders declared, "Europeans are determining their own destiny...they are choosing a Europe whole and free."

The U.S. will have fewer nuclear weapons in Europe, Mr Bush pledged to begin withdrawing the arsenal of 1,470 nuclear-tipped artillery shells, now based mostly in West Ger-

many, as Soviet troops pull out of Central and Eastern Europe.

There need be no doubt that there has been a change in the basic thrust of NATO from war-making to peace-searching. Peace is a new pursuit for NATO; hence the reluctance to make open, unconditional full-fledged declarations and concrete moves. Even on short-range nuclear missiles (the Lance) and nuclear artillery shells (regarded as useless) the 13 leaders could not hammer out an agreement. President Bush wanted them to be discarded as they could hit targets only in East Germany and Czechoslovakia, both of which have drifted away from the Warsaw Treaty. But the Soviet Union's priority is for dismantling airborne nuclear tipped missiles and long range aircraft capable of delivering them.

Moscow is, understandably, keen to sharply curtail its huge standing army, which eats up a quarter of the national income every year. The Soviet Union has some consolation—promise of economic and other assistance from the USA, with a distinct possibility of NATO following suit.

World welcome: The historic NATO declaration transforming the Western military alliance in the face of changes in Eastern Europe and ending the Cold War with the WARSAW Pact countries was welcomed by leaders of all important countries.

President George Bush described the declaration as a turning point in NATO's 41-year history, with its message of cooperation and promise "to alter the way we think about defence". The London communique should be able to convince Mr Gorbachov's critics in the Soviet Union that NATO was changing and that they should realise their own leader was largely responsible for the transformation.

Mr Bush added: "The message to Mr Gorbachov is that this is a defensive alliance, not threatening the Soviet Union."

British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher hailed the NATO declaration as a "landmark" for the Western

alliance and the Canadian Prime Minister Brian Mulroney said the invitation to President Gorbachov was not transferable. The NATO Secretary-General said "at long last we have the chance to make aggression in Europe materially impossible and politically meaningless".

The reaction from Moscow too was swift and positive. Mr Gorbachov signalled that he would be happy to accept the invitation to address NATO. A Soviet spokesman conceded that the London summit of the West bolstered up the President's position at home. The Soviet Foreign Minister said the NATO decisions were "realistic and constructive".

Much has been made out of NATO's "New thinking" on nuclear weapons; a desire to reduce reliance on them, declaring them to be only "weapons of last resort". These Western concessions are not inspired by any sudden wisdom. Rather, they had become inevitable and unavoidable. NATO's traditional insistence that nuclear weapons were essential for Western security, its preparedness to use them first to repel Soviet military aggression, and the need to make this posture credible, required large numbers of nuclear weapons of different sizes to be deployed in Europe.

NATO's declaration that atomic bombs are "weapons of last resort" can also help to somehow preserve its nuclear doctrine. Mr Gorbachov has been demanding for long that the Western alliance and WARSAW should give a commitment that it would not be the first to use nuclear weapons. Such a 'no first use' pledge has always been an anathema to NATO. The London summit of NATO has made a statement on a 'no-early first use' of nuclear weapons but has retained the first use option nonetheless. To stress the point British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher persuaded the summit to state that "there are no circumstances in which nuclear retaliation in response to military action might be discounted". Clearly, NATO still feels

uncomfortable without its nuclear underwear.

V. Impact on India

Inevitably, the passing of the Cold War into recent history has made considerable impact on India, though official spokesmen do not openly admit it. This country has to attune itself to the new global trends, otherwise we may soon be left behind and caught in the wrong foot in critical situations.

The Prime Minister and the External Affairs Minister have hinted at some "adjustments" to meet the emerging situation but the precise directions in which the country's foreign policy will be directed has not yet been indicated. Apart from the need to review the future of non-alignment, which forms the core of this country's foreign policy, there is the impact of the reorientated policies of the Big Powers.

The entire South Asian region's future will be directly affected by the growing realisation in the U.S. that massive economic and military assistance to Pakistan may no longer be necessary. The switch in international relations has in fact made military bases and continuous wooing of proteges, with considerable expenditure, dispensable factors. The U.S. no longer needs China as a second front or Pakistan as a regional surrogate or bases to counter U.S.S.R. expansion. It should not feel any compulsion to give military aid to Pakistan which vitiated Indo-American relations so long. The U.S. aid to Pakistan is therefore likely to taper off by stages, without creating the impression that Washington is abandoning an ally. If this indeed comes about, India and Pakistan would no longer be equated in U.S. State Department's calculations. Nor would there be any reason for the notorious pro-Pakistan tilt to remain, or re-emerge, every now and then.

Indo-Soviet Relations: India and the Soviet Union have been good friends for nearly four decades. The 1971 Indo-Soviet Treaty of Friendship, is to be renewed next

year. No citizen of this country will forget the timely and generous assistance given by the Russians at crucial times when the power blocs were in full swing. On the Kashmir issue the Soviet Union's support to India has been unequivocal and Moscow has been meeting India's requirements of weapons and other military equipment to enable us to beef up our defences. The two countries' friendship is described as "abiding". During the exchanges of visits by each other's spokesmen at various levels this friendship has been affirmed, much to India's satisfaction.

When Mr V.P. Singh visited Moscow in July this year, certain doubts had to be cleared and misapprehensions removed. These stemmed from the dramatic changes in the international situation, especially the end of the Cold War. To these have to be added the process of decentralisation within the Soviet Union and the distinct probability of Moscow's bid to place relations with the prosperous West on a higher pedestal than economic-cum-military gestures to the Third World, including of course the Indian Republic. Although the Soviet leaders will not openly concede that the importance of India in the Kremlin's military strategy is likely to decrease, the reality is that in the new world that is gradually emerging, India is highly unlikely to count for much from Moscow's standpoint. This virtual setback to India's calculations of future relationship, and of its hope of rescue by a giant Power in times of crisis in future also, is not its fault. Events have taken a new turn, and this will almost certainly affect Pakistan too. Pakistan's importance to the USA as a vital protege in the Asian region will be affected.

The assurance given by the Soviet Prime Minister, Mr Ryzhkov, to Mr V.P. Singh that there would be no diminution of Soviet interest in India need not be accepted at face value; after all, the Soviet dignitary could not have bluntly stated that India would not mean so much to Moscow it did some years ago when the rivalry with the USA was at its height. The

art of diplomacy lies in keeping up pretences and not letting decades-old cordiality wither away; if it has to, for more substantial gains in greener pastures, it is best to pursue the more fruitful line quietly but nevertheless effectively. Where can India go for an alternative to Soviet support anyway?

Another indication of the fast changing context in international diplomacy is the U.S. lack of interest in Mr V.P. Singh's talks with Mr Gorbachov. On earlier occasions, whenever an Indian Prime Minister visited Moscow, or a Soviet leader conferred with Indian spokesmen in New Delhi, there were intense speculations about the subjects and results of the discussions. This time Mr V.P. Singh's trip was virtually ignored by the U.S. authorities and also by the American Press and TV. The obvious reason is the transformation in the Super-Power relations. A shrewd observer put things in sharp focus when he said that "to hawks in the U.S. Administration and right-wing conservatives in Congress, whose perceptions were coloured by the Cold War prism, such visits (as Mr V.P. Singh's to Moscow) in earlier years provided an opportunity to bash India as a surrogate of the Soviet Union. This time, in sharp contrast, the visit went largely unnoticed; it was regarded merely as a symbolic gesture of the close Indo-Soviet ties which, in the wake of the sharply decreased Soviet "threat", really does not matter any more. The same view has been expressed by the chief Soviet policy adviser to the influential Senate Foreign Relations Committee who said: "The basic point is that the Cold War is over, particularly as regards South Asia. Then came the admission that "we (the USA and the Soviet Union) are no longer in the business of trying to solicit clients in that part of the world any more." Equally significant is the conclusion ought to be drawn—India and Pakistan have now to live with the reality, namely, that they can't play the U.S. and the USSR against each other for their own benefit. It is an open secret that Pakistan was playing this game continuously, much to

India's discomfiture.

VI. NAM's Future Uncertain

The Non-aligned Movement, which was organised by its founders, Nehru, Nasser, Soekarno and Tito, in 1961 with the aim of keeping peace-loving nations free from military pacts and alliances, will have to re-assert its role in the changing world. When the military pacts, NATO and WARSAW, lose the cause for rivalry and are fading away as a result of the end of the Cold War, what is the justification for continuing the movement?

To this simple but pertinent question an answer has to be found soon. The movement's main objectives of course remain the same, but the unprecedented changes in East-West relations symbolised by the crumbling of the Berlin Wall, the release of Dr Nelson Mandela and the imminent end of apartheid, all call for a new look regarding the relevance of NAM and its future role.

At a function held in New Delhi on May 27 this year to mark the 26th death anniversary of Jawaharlal Nehru, many foreign policy experts agreed with the view that NAM faces a new challenge because of the current detente between the two Super Powers: "The new alignments in the international system calls for a reappraisal of the movement that once served a valuable purpose of reinforcing the independence of the Third World countries and enabled them to take decisions on merit", according to former Foreign Secretary A.P. Venkateswaran. The growing closeness of the U.S.A. and the U.S.S.R. also calls for courage to change India's foreign policy vis-a-vis the non-aligned movement.

NAM aimed at democratisation of international relations by ending imperialism, Western hegemony and establishment of a more just and equal world order. With its thrust for peace, disarmament, development and independence, the movement caught the imagination of the newly independent countries. Its membership swelled from 25 at the Belgrade

conference in 1961 to 101 in the New Delhi summit in 1983.

VII. The Far East

In the Far East also, the impact of the West's reawakening has been felt. Two instances are: the Vietnam-Cambodia tussle and the years-old dispute between Communist-controlled North Korea and the U.S.-backed South Korea. Thus the recent American decision to hold discussions with Vietnam about the Khmer Rouge's retaking Cambodia. This decision took the U.S. Administration about 15 years to take; what was troubling it was the "humiliation involved in starting negotiations with the courageous vanquishers of the United States in the prolonged Vietnam war.

If, as is likely in the fresh air of all-round reconciliation, there is an amicable settlement, it would signify the formal end of the long Vietnam war, very much like the formal end of the still longer Cold War. The willingness to switch the diplomatic recognition of the ruling group in Vietnam marks a climbdown for the U.S. Secretary of State, Mr James Baker.

A veteran commentator put it thus: "Imagine it: the Khmer Rouge strolling back, after 15 years, on to the 'killing fields' and at a time when the Cold War theatre has been closed, Mr Gorbachov has authorised a United Germany to join NATO and Communism has suffered everywhere except Asia."

As for the notable change in Korea, North Korea announced on July 6 this year that it would open its tightly sealed border with the South very soon—in the hope of attracting visitors ready to discuss unification of the bifurcated Korean peninsula. Technically, South Korea is still at war with North Korea. When the war formally ends, as it soon will (unless there is a last-minute hitch), and when there is unification of the two Koreas, another important event would have taken place. Even if the unification is delayed, the very fact that there is now a willingness to start talks on the issue is worthy of note as

another sequel to the end of the Cold War.

VIII. The Future

The newly emerging situation is being closely studied by all countries, big and small. They have to consider the following factors while readjusting their policies, both domestic and foreign.

(1) The Big Powers and the two main military alliances, NATO (the world's most powerful) and WARSAW have no adversary since the end of the Cold War. A non-adversarial world has to be different from the previous one.

(2) There is no political or military threat facing either alliance; so there will be no justification for building up large arsenals of various types of weapons, including the conventional and nuclear ones.

(3) The massive amounts spent, until recently, on the manufacture of armaments, procurement of weapons-grade material and the entire arms industry, which has been flourishing for decades, will have to be revised and reduced.

(4) The sharp reduction in military budgets would naturally mean tremendous savings which can be diverted to economic development of backward regions—if there is a willingness to help others, to facilitate redistribution of resources and not to revert to old follies that posed a grave threat to world peace.

(5) There is also the dramatic dissipation of the Soviet threat since the advent of Mr Gorbachov, the virtual disintegration of the WARSAW Pact in the wake of the East European revolution in 1989, and the imminent German reunification which together have overturned the very political and military foundations of NATO. At the recent summit in London, NATO leaders made a brave attempt to keep the alliance together and intact even as European politics have drastically changed. The resultant London Declaration is a belated bow to the new European realities and an exercise to preserve the core of the outmoded strategic precepts of NATO.

Coup Against Benazir Bhutto

Pakistan's young democracy suffered a setback on August 6 when President Ishaq Khan staged a coup against Ms Benazir Bhutto. The decision had the concurrence of the army and the full support of the fundamentalists. What were the causes of Benazir's downfall and what will be the impact of the switch on India?

The short, 19-month spell of democracy in Pakistan was brought to an abrupt end with the dismissal of Prime Minister Ms Benazir Bhutto by President Ghulam Ishaq Khan and the installation of an interim government headed by Mr G.M. Jatoi. The team of Ministers includes several Zia loyalists and bitter opponents of Benazir. The President's action, obviously taken after several weeks of secret preparations, was arbitrary.

The National Assembly was due to meet a couple of days later and a no-confidence motion was to be moved by the opposition. Democratic-minded people felt that the President should have awaited the legislature's verdict which, it was believed, would have gone against her. Presumably there were specific reasons which prompted the President to take the drastic decision.

According to one view, the army was anxious to prevent a showdown on the Sharia Bill, adopted by the Senate in May, which the Islamic Democratic Alliance wanted to be endorsed by the Assembly. Ms Bhutto's Government, many constitutional experts and others feared that the measure would undermine the supremacy of both parliament and the judiciary.

The Bill gives Islamic jurists a veto over all legislation because it

would be left to them to determine whether the provisions are compatible with the injunctions of the Sharia. The Shias form 20 per cent of Pakistan's population. Interpretations of the Sharia by Sunni theologians may run counter to their beliefs. The military evidently takes the view that its adoption would be divisive, and aggravate tensions within the polity.

Benazir's bitter resentment against her dismissal was understandable, even though she was herself to blame for her fate. She felt however that her elected government had been sacked at a time when Pakistan was trying to muster international support for its stand on Kashmir.

New Crisis: The decision pushed the country into a crisis. She and her party intend to question the legality of the dismissal through an appeal to the Supreme Court. But legal experts feel that the Head of State has the power to dismiss the Prime Minister on the grounds specified by President Ishaq Khan in his order. Her future as a top-rank leader has become wholly uncertain: The prospects of her return to power seem dismal.

The Pakistan President's simultaneous order changing the provincial Governors, dismissing four provincial ministries, dissolving the State Assemblies, was apparently designed to legitimise his action against Benazir. Thus it created the impression of a thorough countrywide reshuffle. In Punjab and Baluchistan, where IJI governments were in office, the dissolution was made at the request of the respective Chief Ministers. In PPP-controlled

Sind and the NWFP, the Assemblies were disbanded by recourse to the Governor's discretionary powers.

Mr Jatoi, IJI's parliamentary leader, has a personal grudge against Ms Bhutto for refusing to accept him, once the principal lieutenant of her father, as a mentor. Why has the Punjab Chief Minister, a strong critic of Benazir, been ousted? Mr Sharif, it is explained, could not be retained since the dismissal of his PPP counterparts would have looked blatantly partisan. Mr Akbar Bugti has been replaced in Baluchistan by his son-in-law. In Sind, the new leader is a PPP bigwig who has ditched Ms Benazir. The new leader in NWFP is very close to Mr Ishaq Khan.

The President's imposition of Emergency in Pakistan was also surprising. This step enables the President to bring into action military and para-military forces at the Centre's discretion in the unlikely event of the PPP creating trouble in the streets on a substantial scale. The party leadership is however cautious. Its capacity to mobilise mass support is limited and it would like to avoid anything which pits it against the military. The President has not, however, suspended fundamental rights.

The U.S. State constitutional change in government is "an internal matter for the people in Pakistan to decide". U.S. support of "democratic development" in Pakistan has been repeated many times.

Many Americans doubt whether President Ishaq Khan will hold elections on October 24. They recall that his predecessor, Gen Zia, repeatedly postponed elections on some pretext and ruled as a dictator for over a

decade. There is however a note of caution for Pakistan. A move is being made in the U.S. to stop economic aid if Pakistan reverses the democratic process and establishes arbitrary rule. Britain also considers the developments to be an internal affair. It expects the Pakistanis to "sort out things among themselves".

Benazir's Lapses: The general comment on Benazir's unceremonious dismissal was that although she had initially generated much goodwill, she had wasted the opportunity she had of consolidating the democratic forces in Pakistan and establishing herself as a progressive leader. Worse, she had allowed her regime to become notorious for corruption, (her husband was described as "Mr 10 per cent"), nepotism, mismanagement and worse.

The President had a point in accusing her administration of graft and ineptitude. The charge-sheet against her and her party, the PPP, provides food for serious thought and is considered by her numerous opponents as enough to condemn her as unfit for the post of Prime Minister. Among the main charges are:

One. Corruption during her regime (the President said) had reached such proportions that the Government could not function according to the Constitution. The public exchequer was "treated like a hereditary *jagir*". The word "corruption" became the trademark of politics in Pakistan.

Two. Her administration was inefficient, ineffective and unpopular. She had displeased not only the people of her own province of Sind but had also lost the support of Punjab, NWFP and Baluchistan.

Three. Ms Benazir Bhutto resorted to favouritism on a large scale. She packed the civil services with her and PPP nominees. Over 26,000 jobs were created and filled by her partymen, causing a heavy drain on the exchequer. Scores of officers were

put on "special duty", many assistants were appointed; they drew salaries without doing any useful work.

Four. She did not command the confidence of a majority in the National Assembly. She had a narrow escape from defeat in November, 1989, when the no-confidence motion moved by the opposition was lost by only 12 votes. The MQM (the group from Sind which saved her at a crucial time) withdrew its support later. According to the President, the horse-trading indulged in, particularly by the ruling party, during the no-confidence vote had made the country "a laughing stock".

Five. The Senate had been put to ridicule; there was an unseemly confrontation with the opposition-ruled provinces of Punjab and Baluchistan. The Council of Common Interest and the National Finance Commission were never convened.

Six. The handling of the ethnic and terrorist violence in Sind was deplorable. There were hundreds of killings. Although the same party was in power in the province and the federation, no serious effort was made to ensure that the provincial government was carried out in accordance with the Constitution.

Seven. Ms Bhutto had displeased even the army without whose support no government in Pakistan can survive. The influential army commanders were disillusioned. The army was unhappy about not getting powers under Article 245 of the Constitution to deal with the Sind disturbances. There is no love lost between the PPP and the army.

Impact on India: Like almost all other countries, India was surprised by the sudden change in Pakistan. External Affairs Minister I.K. Gujral admitted that the dissolution of the Pakistan Assembly and the dismissal of the elected Government "has come as a surprise to me". Although it is an internal affair of Pakistan, experiences have shown that shocks of this kind anywhere put democracy under stress.

An official statement in Parliament affirmed that India would continue to build a relationship of cooperation with Pakistan despite "severe provocations", including that country's support for terrorism and subversion in India. This country supports a stable Pakistan and believes that friendly ties between the two neighbours would contribute to peace and stability in the region.

It is however widely feared that the political turmoil in Islamabad may lead to a further increase in the militants' activity in India. The Union Government has, therefore, become cautious. It is considered vital to adopt counter-measures to prevent terrorism, secessionism, and religious fundamentalism within the country. If the elections, fixed for the present for October 24, are not deferred, the poll campaigns by various parties are almost certain to include anti-India accusations and pronouncements. Such actions will encourage terrorists and secessionists, thus creating major law and order problems for the Government.

Benazir was often accused of adopting a soft line towards India. It was only towards the last few months of her rule that she echoed the stern Pakistan policy on the Kashmir issue while reaffirming her country's commitment to the Simla Agreement. She simultaneously sought a plebiscite in terms of the U.N. resolution.

The Government of India has done well to continue its policy of holding a dialogue with Pakistani officials on a bilateral basis in a bid to settle as many issues as possible.

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National Commission for Women

Every political party expresses concern over the plight of women and promises effective measures for their uplift. But the promises remain unfulfilled. The National Commission on Women, to be set up by the Union Government, is meant to implement the National Front's commitment. But how far will it succeed in achieving the aim?

If life is tough for women in developed countries, it is tougher in the Third World. The Human Development Report, published recently for the U.N. Development Fund, shows that female children in developing countries get less food, less health care, less education, less professional training and less pay even when they work longer hours than men. The results of the study are disheartening and bring out the discrimination. The report recommends that more investment be made in women as an integral part of the human development strategies for the 1990s.

Since the attainment of Independence several laws have been put on the statute-book in order to improve the condition of women in India. Among these are the Equal Remuneration Act, the Minimum Wages Act; there are the IPC provisions against murder, attempted murder and abetment to suicide. And yet discriminative actions continue: in Lucknow women "zari" workers are paid Rs 5 a day while men get Rs 25; women in Bihar break stones in the scorching sun for Rs 3 a day. Women are assaulted in towns and cities; and dowry deaths are on the increase despite all the pronouncements by social reformers and party leaders. Female infanticide also continues; even the obnoxious practice of Sati has not stopped despite the warnings of strict action. Women continue to suffer

indignities and humiliation. There is indeed a wide gap between promise and reality.

During the past 15 years women activists and groups have been asking for a national commission on women, so that this body might continually pursue the issue. The report of the Committee on the Status of Women in India (1976) had recommended a statutory national commission, both at the Centre and in the States.

Flaws in New Bill: During Parliament's Budget session the Union Minister for Welfare introduced the National Commission on Women Bill. It is a far cry from what the women's organisations had envisaged. Because of this, women leaders are seeking several amendments in the Bill. "The Bill, as it stands now, can best be described as a handicapped girl child", says a Mahila Samiti leader, adding, "the Bill outlines only functions for the commission and no powers". The President of the All-India Mahila Congress described the proposed commission as "an eyewash", unless it was suitably amended and given some teeth.

According to Ms Pramilla Dandavate, President of the Mahila Raksha Samiti, the purpose of the national commission would be to serve as a mechanism to ensure enforcement of laws concerning women. The Government should be accountable to the commission. When the National Front Government initiated discussions on setting up a commission, women's organisations were happy. But their euphoria was short-lived when it became clear that the powers of the commission

were nowhere near the expectations of women.

While the commission can haul up a government department for not implementing laws concerning women, it does not have the powers of investigation vested under the Commission of Inquiry Act. Another drawback is that the Bill does not envisage any role for the commission in the planning process.

The Congress (I) had ignored the women's demand and that is why when it promised 30 per cent job reservations for women, it was treated as a pre-poll gimmick. The voluntary agencies which have been fighting for a better deal for Indian women have reasons to feel let down because the Bill in its present form is not based on the consensus reached after several rounds of discussion between women's groups and the ministry concerned. Any commission without power to take independent action on any issue brought before it will serve no purpose. It will be like any other government department with petty politicians and bumbling bureaucrats having the right to interfere in its day-to-day functioning. The proposed commission will be required to "carry out such directions as may be issued to it by the Central Government for proper and efficient functioning". An autonomous commission is what was demanded but an autonomous commission is what the women of India are not getting. The Government will have the power to decide who, from a wide range of designated fields, is competent to serve on the commission. This provision will open the floodgates of political appointments whose survival

will depend on the whims and fancies of the Government.

Political outsiders: Women still have only a very small share of political power despite all the hue and cry. Studies carried out by UNESCO in seven South-East Asian countries indicate that women's involvement in the formal political processes of their country continues to be low. In all countries surveyed, women accounted for less than 10 per cent of the leadership.

In every party list of candidates for local and national elections very few women are included. The pre-selection process which, overtly or covertly, denies women party tickets at election time and the parties' method of functioning and decision-making do not favour women's participation.

While a majority of "non-political" women interviewed in the surveyed countries regard women politicians as more sincere and hardworking than men. But at election time in India votes are shaped mostly by the factors of caste, clan and class.

Biased Laws: A proof of the bias of lawmakers against women is evident from the legislation. In fact, several socio-economic groups on women are of the view that existing laws are heavily biased against women's interests in matters like property, marriage and divorce. They have repeatedly urged a change in attitudes regarding women.

Some mechanisms, other than women's development corporations, would have to be thought of during the Eighth Plan, particularly for implementation of the training and awareness schemes. Although there has been considerable investment in social sectors to benefit women at the village level, the benefits have not been reaching them due to non-functioning of the infrastructure.

In the existing system there are

no horizontal linkages and therefore there is urgent need for merging various schemes pertaining to women and children. It would also be advisable to form representative bodies of the people at the village level on the pattern of the Karnataka and West Bengal models so that leakages from developmental funds could be minimised.

The next plan should lay emphasis on women's training programmes, particularly vocational training, with suitable diversification for modern trades in order to push women's employment. Reservation for women in various training institutions are needed to be considered. Priority should be given to land reforms so that land could be distributed to households headed by women. Also, women should be given joint titles even for existing land holdings in order to improve their economic status.

Suggestions for Early uplift: Zealous and realistic advocates of women's rights have made several sound suggestions for making the National Commission effective. Among these suggestions are:

One. The Commission should not confine its work to urban women but reach the mass of women, especially poor women. There is need at State, district and local levels of mechanisms to check the wrongs being done to women.

Two. The Commission should not develop a large bureaucratic

structure. Experience has shown that such structures are affected by traditions. The bureaucracy rarely has a flexible approach to new and varied problems. The Commission would be well advised to work mostly through existing women's organisations, including voluntary agencies.

Three. The Commission should act as a watchdog of women's rights. It should be empowered to investigate and act when it detects a violation of protective laws. The pity is that several official agencies are themselves major violators of the law. The worst cases of assaults on women occur in custody or by members of security forces. The biggest employers of illegal contract labour are government departments, such as PWD. It is necessary, therefore, that the Commission should have full investigating powers, including powers to call for information and explanation. Its investigating powers could be on the lines laid down by the Commission of Inquiries Act, 1962.

Well-wishers of women will naturally welcome the assurance given by Mr V.P. Singh that the Government would introduce amendments designed to strengthen the Commission in enforcing the rights of women. The Commission might be given the powers on the same lines as the National Commission for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.

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India Still in the Grip of Poverty

Since the clarion call of Mrs Indira Gandhi in seventies to eliminate poverty from the face of India, efforts have been made to alleviate the severity of this human scourge. But the end is no where in sight. The World Bank Report has this year focused on this human problem. This paper features its views on the subject.

I. Background

India is rich but the Indians are poor is a hackneyed platitude. Its validity has however been re-affirmed in the just-released World Development Report, 1990. In fact the main focus of the Report is on poverty which is seen as a global phenomenon with a high incidence in the Third World countries.

It is estimated that at least one quarter (one billion) of the World population is reeling under the scourge of poverty. Of this, a big chunk lives in the under-developed countries. Taking the case of India, the number of the poor people was estimated at 420 million in 1985. This may be reduced to 255 million in 2000 AD if the growth rate during 1989-2000 is not allowed to fall below 5.2 per cent. Otherwise the number of the poor will be as high as 370 million. Thus, according to the projections in the Report, India will enter the next century with poor people outnumbering the population of the U.S.A.

The trend of the economy in the current decade is largely influenced by the developments in the preceding one inside and outside the country.

For many of the world's poor, the eighties was a "lost decade"—a disaster, indeed. As against this, for the rich countries, it was a fortunate one beginning with the after-effects of the second oil shock and the recession of the early eighties. The decade ended with debt crisis and unemployment under control and wider horizons for

free market enterprises. Japan and West Germany, in particular, gained an edge over the two leading capitalist countries: the USA and the UK. But the initial setback was soon repaired and the situation at the end of the decade is not as bad as was anticipated. The great stock market in crash in 1987 failed to engender a second Great Depression of 1930s.

In contrast, the less developed countries emerged over-burdened with debt, domestic as well as foreign. The real income of many of them has declined relative to the industrialised ones and also in absolute terms. The rich-poor chasm has widened instead of getting narrowed down.

II. Growth

The Bank puts the real growth rate of India's aggregate gross domestic product at 3.6 per cent per annum during the period 1965-80 which rose to 5.6 per cent during 1980-89. It is projected to slide down to 5.2 per cent from 1989 to 2000.

Two notable facts may be stated here. The growth rate of the industrial countries declines from 3.7 per cent in period I to 3 per cent in period II and remains constant subsequently. The developing countries also recorded a fall in the growth rate from 5.9 per cent in period I to 4.3 per cent in period II, but manage to recover to 5.1 per cent in period III. India will have the dubious distinction of leading the developing countries with an average annual growth rate at 5.2 per cent which is marginally higher in period III. This is less than the average (5.6 per cent) in period II. One might well say that while the outlook is for a stronger performance for the group of developing countries during the nineties compared to the 1980s, it is weak for India. This reflects however the confidence that a combination of

improvements in domestic policies and greater external assistance will gradually bring growth close to long-run potential.

Considering the per capita growth rate of real GDP the industrialised countries are projected to show only a marginal increase from 2.5 per cent in period II to 2.6 per cent in period III and the developing countries a rapid stepup from 2.3 per cent to 3.2 per cent in the corresponding periods while India will suffer a small decrease from 3.5 per cent to 3.4 per cent. This, it is notable, would be in excess of her population growth rate and sufficient to allow reduction in poverty.

The assumption in the projection for India is that the policies of the eighties in respect of investment, productivity and export expansion will be maintained.

The key indicator of economic prosperity is growth. It is probably the most reliable and objective measure as well, although it is questioned by many critics. The Planning Commission has accordingly targeted to achieve a growth rate of 5.5 per cent during the eighth plan period which is closer to the World Bank projection. Even this target is regarded unattainable by some economists. To fix a higher rate of growth of between 6 and 7 per cent which is considered desirable, necessary and within the pale of possibility, according to the industrialists and social scientists, would have been over-ambitious.

III. Impediments to growth

What are the impediments to growth? This question has been agitating the minds of the planners. Resource crunch heads the list of obstacles framed by them. A minority view is that there are enough resources to go round. Only they have to be utilized optimally.

The heavy debt burden involving repayment of principal and interest and the adverse current account deficit have exacerbated the situation. The burden accentuates because of major component of the loans being of a non-concessional nature. The rupee-dollar exchange has been fluctuating to the disadvantage of India. With the depreciation of the rupee in dollar terms, India has to export more of rupee worth of goods for every dollar of loan to be paid off. The US has a positive balance of payment against India even when its overall position is just the reverse.

The World Bank forecasts a "robust 8 per cent growth" in India's export volume with a careful management of the exchange rate.

The chronic budgetary deficit and the consequent price spurt have also contributed to the incidence of debt. More than that, the deficit-induced prices have caused distortions in the economy; greater skewedness in income and wealth distribution and impoverishment. At the same time, the increase in input prices has escalated production costs of goods, and thereby reduced the competitive capability of exports.

Large budgetary and trade deficits have reduced the manoeuvrability of the government for financial re-structuring. The negative trade balance has restrained imports. This has led to retardation in growth and made it difficult to cut down prices of consumption goods. A case in point is of edible oil. The shortfall in edible oil has pushed up the price in the domestic market but, for want of adequate foreign exchange (and in the absence of any other avenue to take credit for the purpose), the country is unable to augment supplies and bring down the prices. The recent developments in the Gulf countries have similarly made our position very tight on the oil front. If the government is unable to manage the situation it might mean a big jolt to India's economy.

Since the debt crisis in 1982, many severely indebted countries have restrained imports, raised exports and thereby generated trade surpluses. These adjustments have

been made at the cost of compressed consumption and wages, lower investment and output and frequent recourse to inflationary financing of government deficits. A strategy is needed to break this pattern in the 1990s.

The new strategy will have higher investment and growth in export industries as its major components. Stronger exports would make it easier to finance imports and service debts and would thereby restore creditworthiness.

India's industrial and trade liberalisation policies recently announced are somewhat on the same lines. De-regulation, de-bureaucratization in procuring industrial licences and extension of essential imports (including technology) for manufacturers of exports are the policy reforms.

The snag in export-based growth is that protectionist policies adopted by the developed countries would hinder it.

IV. New horizons

To fight the global poverty, the World Bank can and should, play a key role. It is in a better position now than ever before with the fading away of the cold war and the receding need for the military might. The resources thus released can be utilized by the industrial countries to redouble their efforts in poverty eradication. It would be an inexcusable plea that the foreign aid is stagnating while their economies grow. If they cut the defence budget by even one-tenth, they can double the aid.

The indebted countries like India which are already engaged in poverty alleviation should receive pre-emptive assistance. It however follows that the future prospects of the third world are firmly tied to the pace and progress of economic activity in the developed countries. If the annual growth rate in the industrial countries falters below three per cent (projection), the picture could be less robust.

V. Policy Framework

To reduce dependence on foreign aid is always advisable. It is a must

for our very survival now. Self-reliance has been our watch-word since the second five-year plan but it has proved elusive. Semblance of self-reliance has been achieved on the food front but it is likely to disappear if the population growth continues unabated in the current decade as in the past. The prospects of extending the area under food crops are bleak and so are for raising productivity. India has reached a plateau in production, and soon the country will be faced with a food crisis unless a miracle happens. Obviously, the government must bend all its efforts to contain the population. Failure on this front would mean increase in the number of the poor and the unemployed for which the government is as much to blame as the people themselves.

It would not do to make provision or reservation for more jobs as has been proclaimed by the Prime Minister on the Independence Day or in the Parliament. More important is to make the poor illiterate people literate and to equip them with the skill to increase their earning capacity! At the same time, there is need to increase health services so that the people can stay fit and do the work more efficiently. Poverty of resources, including education, technical skill and the will to work and poverty of finances constitute the main hurdle in their way to improve economically. Increased job opportunities unless backed by the necessary infrastructure will fail to solve the problem of abject poverty. It is lopsided thinking on the part of the government that there is only lack of employment avenues. Populist measures which the National Front government seeks to adopt would prove sterile.

In sum, the World Bank's panacea for poverty is growth. More foreign aid should be judiciously combined with domestic policy reforms aimed at increased production and equitable distribution. The rich nations have a heavy responsibility to help the poor ones liquidate demonic poverty.

Will Humanity Survive by 2090?

Every few years the prophets of doom warn the world that the end is not far off. They base their dismal forecasts on the rapid destruction of the natural resources, the indiscriminate use of precious commodities and also on what they consider as an inevitable eventuality—total destruction by chemical and nuclear wars. The cumulative effect of all these ruinous forces, according to them, will be the hastening of doomsday. How far is their stark pessimism justified?

Mr A Sir Walter Scott, the famous novelist, spoke in his well-known book "The Lay of the Last Minstrel" of that day of wrath that dreadful day, when heaven and earth shall pass away. There are many other authors and philosophers who have forewarned against the time when it would be difficult for humanity to survive, either because all the resources of bountiful Nature would be exhausted as a result of sheer waste, or the compulsion of events, or the rise in the population, or the inevitability of highly destructive conflicts in which no holds would be barred and no mercy shown to the rest of mankind in a bid to wreak vengeance. The whole tribe of futurists habitually indulges in heart-rending and spine-chilling forecasts. Are we to take their word for granted and assume that we are fast heading towards destruction and towards the ultimate end of all that we cherish, the civilisation that has taken us centuries to build up, the human values that we have preserved after endless endeavours, the economic and scientific miracles

that we have brought about after prolonged and earnest research in laboratories, the relationships that we have established after sustained and patient efforts? Are all these, and much more besides, merely of transitory value or what the poet called "just a passing phase", a dream that is best forgotten because it cannot last? The scarcity of natural resources apart, there is also the meaningful warning sounded by some eminent American scientists recently. They expressed the fear that the great deluge, of which poets and pessimists have often spoken, is just round the corner. Their forebodings are based on what they describe as the probability of a nuclear holocaust. According to them, atomic energy agreements were slender safeguards against proliferation, and ultimate destructive utilisation, of nuclear weapons. All these warnings are very much there, but I still think that humanity is not nearing its end. The numerous destructive forces are being countered by many constructive efforts that would come to our rescue.

Mr B I would extend the fullest support to my friend Mr A's sound exposition of the current situation. Prophets of doom have been there all these centuries; they have come and gone, but the world is very much there, with more resources and more comforts of life than mankind has ever had. If we accept the sense of defeatism, we would be indulging in indescribable folly. The reality which the forecasters of doom tend to forget is

that even as humanity consumes the bounty and the varied resources of Nature, more and more resources are being discovered or created by sustained scientific efforts. So the process of steady depletion of the vital means on which we depend is being partially, if not wholly, set off and countered. I would even go further and assert that the world would be a happier place to live in after about 100 years or so, say in 2090 A.D. With the remarkable and unprecedented progress of science, there is bound to be abundant life for everyone; further today's poor have every opportunity to become affluent and today's rich of course have the means to become even richer—unless, of course, there is a major setback to human civilisation through a global conflict involving large-scale destruction of cities and towns, necessitating reconstruction efforts on a large scale. In this connection, I would like to quote the findings of the Hudson Institute which is headed by Mr Herman Kahn, generally regarded as the "Father of Futurism". The Institute's research scholars and scientists have come to the comforting conclusion that within the next 200 years the world's Gross National Product will increase from five trillion dollars to 300 trillion dollars. It is also expected that, by then, the per capita income of "Mr World Citizen" will rise from the current 1,300 dollars to 20,000 dollars. But even if we disregard the figures, which at times prove misleading, there is the widely accepted general principle that the golden age is not in the past but in the future, not in

the origin of human experience but in its consummate flowering. The consummation is bound to improve as the decades pass. Besides, man is always looking to the future; the present hardly satisfies him. Ideals keep on changing and the goals keep on receding, each time registering an improvement upon the previous ones. Mr Nehru put it well when he said: "Let us have done with the past and its bickering and prepare ourselves to face the future." Far too many people are afraid of Tomorrow and needlessly poison their happiness Today.

Mr C Optimism is a good quality and it often yields handsome dividends, but I am afraid the over-optimism displayed by my predecessors, Mr A and Mr B, is totally unwarranted in the face of the modern world's harsh realities. One, unless the present lop-sided structure of the world in which one country, namely the U.S.A. with a small percentage of the total world population, uses 30 to 40% of the total available resources in a bid to ensure a life of comfort for its people, even while billions of people elsewhere do not get even the bare subsistence, is changed and a fair distribution ensured, the time when the resources will be exhausted will come earlier than envisaged. Secondly, survival of humanity is, I think, almost impossible unless the growing danger of a nuclear holocaust is checked well in time. With the present proliferation of nuclear weapons and the big powers' willingness to use nuclear weapons to wreak vengeance, or to re-establish their influence in certain regions, or to resort to what are called "strategic strikes", there is every danger of a horrible, totally destructive war. A leading scientist pointed out recently that in the next

10 years the nuclear powers would be producing 100 tonnes of plutonium which would be enough for manufacturing 10,000 atomic bombs, each having the same power as the one that destroyed the big Japanese town of Nagasaki in the last World War. Even crudely manufactured bombs can wipe out whole cities and thousands of people in a flash. So the grave hazards are right there for all to see. Can there be any doubt in these circumstances that the much-dreaded deluge is not far away, that the fate of humanity is sealed and that there is every ground for downright pessimism? Efforts have been made by well-intentioned persons to facilitate an agreement on the use of nuclear weapons, or an agreement to check the production of nuclear weapons, but none of the big powers is willing to surrender its right to continue the manufacture of the deadliest weapons, the most sophisticated bomber aircraft, the deadliest and the most effective of chemical poisons, and so on. Once all these weapons of destruction are manufactured and stockpiled, the temptation to use them (and not to let them go waste) will always be there. Mankind cannot, surely, have it both ways; either statesmen and politicians should put their heads together and evolve effective and universal agreements to put the world on the paths of peace, or face the inevitable consequence—extinction at the end of a few decades.

Mr D I extend full support to my friend, Mr C, who has put the case against the proposition that humanity will ultimately survive, with great clarity. I would like to say that another aspect needs to be considered—and that is the indiscriminate use of fuel the resources of which are not unlimited. Fuel has been man's constant companion right from the start of civilisation

and it is now very much an essential part of life. It is an admitted fact that any disruption in the supply of essential fuels in an advanced society will cause serious disruption of economic activity and the lifestyles of the people. The impact of the oil crisis is by now common knowledge. Neither the world's oil resources, nor the other types of fuel such as coal and wood can be deemed to be everlasting. Are there any alternative sources on which mankind can wholly and surely depend? Hardly any. I really wonder how the world's energy problem will be solved. Another exotic fuel is wind. We hear of wind mills and wind power, but large-scale and effective use even of this source may not be possible. It is all in the wind—empty talk.

Mr E My predecessor, Mr D, has pointed out some additional difficulties and Mr C had earlier stressed several other problems. Both sides have a point in their arguments. But I feel that the salvation of the world, from every point of view, lies in rapid development of nuclear energy. At present this energy is being put to destructive uses for the most part, and diverted to the manufacture of war weapons and other negative devices. By a systematic regulation of this source, mankind can make up the losses of energy being incurred on other fronts. It has to be admitted that other sources are being fast eroded. True, Nature's supply of these resources is not unlimited, but given the concentrated efforts of the world's numerous scientists to invent new sources, new inputs, new methods of economising the use of power, developing and discovering new sources of food and new minerals from the sea, there is every reason to hope that the world will go on and on for centuries. Pessimism on this count is unwarranted.

Argumentative Questions on Social and Economic Problems

We publish below answers to the remaining questions set in the Reserve Bank of India Staff Officers' Grade A Examination, 1990 "Paper on Social and Economic Problems".

Answers to the first four questions were published in the Sept 1990 issue.

Q. 5. (a) What are the effects of economic development on population growth?

(b) Would you recommend rapid economic development as the solution to India's population problem? Give reasons for your answer.

Ans. (a) Economic development and population growth mutually interact. Considering, however, the effects of economic development on population growth, it might be said that it has both qualitative as well as quantitative effects.

The development of the economy of a country in terms of an increase in GNP may tend to enlarge the population base, to begin with, because the capacity to support a bigger family increases. But as the standard of living improves, the question arises whether to have a baby or a car. The dice will obviously be cast in favour of the latter. The small family norm will be preferable. The resultant fall in the population size is due to attitudinal change of the people.

The development process has also a direct effect on the population growth. It helps create the means and the methods for reduction in births and deaths. The mortality rate is reduced by providing adequate and effective medical and health-care infrastructure, while the birth rate can be controlled by using contraceptives, if desired.

The development can influence the population growth by improving the quality of workers in terms of productivity per worker or skill. Population constitutes a critical productive resource which can be expressed as number of workers multiplied by productivity per worker equal to total human input. With a given strength of manpower, the total input by man will be proportional to the efficiency of workers. The human input increases if productivity is higher and decreases if it is lower, even if the labour force employed remains unaltered.

(b) India's population problem is multi-dimensional, social, educational, cultural, economic and political. But basically, it is a problem of economic development and social transformation and not just controlling numbers. However, the problem of excessive births over deaths is the most crucial. It leads to what is called "population explosion". To tackle this problem, economic development is the best contraceptive, according to some demographers.

India has more than doubled its population during the four decades from 361 million in 1951 to 835 million in 1990. Due to this phenomenal increase unaccompanied by a commensurate rise in GNP, the growth rate of per capita income has dipped to 3.4 per cent, though it is enough to reduce poverty. Since the population growth affects unfavourably the income per capita and also perpetuates inequalities in the distribution of income and wealth, the case for rapid economic development in India is clear and strong. It is the only panacea for eradication of the scourge of poverty.

Q. 6. What are the reasons for the accentuation of communal conflicts in India in recent years?

Ans. The communal virus has engulfed many a State in recent years. It is endemic and sometimes grows into an epidemic.

India has a pluralistic society. The multi-racial, multi-religious, multi-lingual and multi-cultural polity is bound to have conflicting interests. Each community tries to preserve and promote its own interests, thanks to social awakening and educational expansion. If the interests of one community jeopardise those of another, communal conflict is triggered off. Sentiments run high culminating in devastation and destruction of life and property.

Communal conflicts are ascribable to State policies. The divide and rule policy of the British regime ultimately led to the historic communal riots accompanying the balkanisation of the country on the two-nation theory basis. It was but a demonstration of the deep-seated communalism. That was however not the end. The Hindu-Muslim conflicts have been witnessed in many areas since Independence, notwithstanding the efforts to bring about national and emotional integration.

Fundamentalism is its main cause. Though we profess secularism, yet the communal differences persist. These sometimes deepen with sectarian and parochial religious beliefs. The situation accentuates when religion is mixed up with politics as has happened in the recent past.

The high-ups in the government swear by unity of the country and the people. But the policies adopted en-

courage divisive and disruptive forces. Crass populism to appease one community at the cost of another is indulged in by politicians to gain a political mileage or advantage in elections.

Criminalisation of politics has added a new dimension and accentuated communal conflicts.

Last but not least, the electronic media and the regional Press stoke the fires of communalism. Sensational and irresponsible reporting and visuals which are provocative contribute their mite to rouse communal feelings/conflicts.

Q. 7. (a) What are the implications of including the right to work in the list of Fundamental Rights?

(b) Does the joint family system have any role to play in modern India? Give reasons for your answer.

Ans. (a) The right to work as a Fundamental Right has two broad implications: Constitutional and economic.

Taking the Constitutional aspect first. The right to work, according to some Constitutional experts, is already inscribed in the Constitution but it does not fall within the ambit of the Fundamental Rights. Consequently, the government is under no legal obligation, at present, to provide work for the unemployed persons.

The National Front government has committed itself to redeem the party election pledge to remove this disability against the work-seekers by embodying the right to work in the chapter on Fundamental Rights. As a result, the onus to provide work, or unemployment dole in lieu thereof, would fall on the government. This implies that the government will have to take necessary and effective measures for employment generation on a large scale. Failure to provide work will render the government liable to action by the court as and when approached for justice in exercise of the Constitutional right. Is it feasible or pragmatic for the govern-

ment to rise to the occasion? Will the courts, already clogged with arrears of law-suits, be able to shoulder the additional burden?

Consider now the economic aspect. If new or special courts are set up, it will mean extra financial burden on the State exchequer. The government resources will be subjected to heavy pressure for allocating funds for unemployment dole or relief to millions of unemployed—estimated at 30 million. Will this not swell the budgetary deficits which the government seeks to reduce?

(b) India's joint family system, which has suffered rapid erosion under the impact of the Western civilisation, can play a vital role in many ways to solve the socio-economic problems. It can help revive the rich cultural heritage of India and repair the social fabric damaged by the pervasive spirit of individualism.

The crisis of national character in today's India is a challenge that can best be met by the revival of this system. It tends to restrain asocial activities or indiscipline. Customs and traditions and not the whims and fancies of an individual would set the norms and the mode of man's actions. Tolerance, cooperation, self-sacrifice and mutual respect and reverence, especially for the elderly people—the essential traits of our national character and culture—which are grossly missing now, will be instilled among the members of the family. The generation gap which is being debated so much these days will be narrowed down with the restoration of the joint family system.

Above all, the joint family system works as an employment insurance, because the various activities are executed cooperatively and the gains equitably shared. The right to work is an in-built feature of this system and needs no legal or Constitutional sanction.

The system has certain negative aspects. The traditionalism and unquestioned obeisance to the elderly

members kill initiative and the spirit of entrepreneurship. Modernisation and economic development are impeded. The employment guarantee breeds idleness.

Q. 8. What electoral reforms would you suggest in the light of problems faced by India in the conduct of elections?

Ans. India, as the largest democracy in the world with parliamentary form of government and adult suffrage as the basis for elections to the Parliament and the State legislatures, is faced with a legion of election problems: social, economic and administrative.

The societal problems are the outgrowth of distortions in democracy. Effective functioning of democracy requires a complete comprehension of the issues involved in elections; unbiased and transparent mind open to conviction, tolerant to genuine differences and amenable to consensus. This presupposes that the electorate possess education upto a certain level. With massive and widespread illiteracy (64 per cent), the right to franchise conferred on all citizens above the age of 18 years, cannot be exercised intelligently and in a fair and free manner which millions of voters are called upon to do. Intimidation and impersonation are indulged in. To check this, the electoral laws need to be given more "teeth".

The use of muscle power and money power has become a common feature of elections, thanks to the criminalisation of politics and unethical practices. Unless the country wants to build up democracy with the help of criminals, the laws permitting this must be abrogated.

Booth capturing, rigging or other electoral malpractices must be put down with a firm foot. Laws should provide exemplary action against those directly involved in the offence and also against the sponsors. The candidates concerned should be disenfranchised permanently to teach

others a lesson. Such drastic steps are necessary to stem the rising curve of crimes vitiating democratic functioning.

At present, all election expenses are made by the candidate and/or his supporters or party. While there is a ceiling on what a candidate can spend on his/her election campaign, the limit is purely notional because the actual expenditure far exceeds it. To escape action for this violation of the law, accounts are falsified. The rich candidate or the affluent party manipulates to register a win at the polls through the use of money power. This corrupt practice can be curbed by State funding of elections. According to one estimate Rs 500 crore should suffice for the purpose. The aid should be provided not in money but in kind such as for supplying copies of electoral rolls, microphones for public meetings, telephone facilities etc.

The political parties should not be allowed to spend beyond the prescribed limit. They should be required to furnish duly audited accounts of expenditure and incomes with sources from where funds have been received.

In recent elections the number of candidates in the fray increased in some constituencies to administratively un-manageable limit. Many of them, mostly independents, lost their deposits. The election exercise was thus reduced to a mockery, let alone the wasteful expenditure and the administrative problems faced by the Election Commission and the army of staff employed for the conduct of elections. A ceiling on the number of contestants in a constituency is advisable. Minimum academic qualification for a candidate may be fixed. This would attract reasonably good parliamentarians and legislators in the State assemblies.

Q. 9. (a) What are the problems faced by the Panchayati Raj institutions?

(b) What measures would you

suggest to make them as catalysts of economic development?

Ans. (a) Panchayati Raj institutions conceived as the governing bodies of the village republics encounter a host of problems. Social stratification on caste and religious basis is the greatest inhibition to the rural development, which is problem No. 1. Traditions, customs, widespread illiteracy, under-development, and lack of basic infra-structure (e.g. means of transport and communication) accentuate the problems.

On the administrative front, there is a gross lack of requisite personnel. Management is on a low key. The result is that the village panchayats exist as tutelege of the State governments. Elections to the panchayati raj institutions are inordinately delayed (for several years in some cases). Autonomy in making decisions on plans and programmes for raising the living standards of the villagers is conspicuously absent. It is the State governments which rule the roost.

Financial crunch bedevils the panchayats' plans. The sources of raising revenues from within the village are limited and unproductive. The panchayati raj institutions have therefore to depend on States for financial assistance.

(b) It is only recently that the government at the Centre has recognised the need to rejuvenate 3-tier panchayati raj system with panchayats at the village, block and district levels. A Constitutional Amendment Bill to this effect is likely to be introduced in the Parliament shortly. Each State shall be required to establish such panchayats, hold elections periodically, provide necessary finances for development and empower them to mobilise resources "internally" to meet plan expenses decided upon by the panchayats. Thus they will play the role of a catalyst for economic development of the villages.

Q. 10. Write notes on any two of

the following:

(a) Autonomy for electronic media.

(b) Independence of the judiciary.

(c) The Impact of economic development on environment.

(d) The relationship between the government of India and RBI.

N.B. All the four topics have been answered.

Ans. (a) Television and radio constitute the two wings of the electronic media. It is State-owned and -controlled. As such the broadcasting policy is decided by the Centre and the network of TV centres and radio stations all over the country toe the line adjusting their own programmes within the framework of the national policy.

In pursuit of its election pledge, the present government has enacted Prasar Bharati Corporation Act to accord autonomous status to the electronic media. The autonomy is not genuine but only fake. Only some structural and administrative changes have been envisaged in the Act. A 15-member Parliamentary Committee will be constituted to monitor the working of the Prasar Bharati. It is hoped that the electronic media will henceforward not project a pro-government image but produce quality programmes, make dispassionate account of socio-economic and political developments, have a better rapport with the public and establish credibility with the masses.

(b) The three wings of a State are: legislature; executive and judiciary. The judiciary can deliver the judgement without fear or favour only if it enjoys independence untrammelled by outside influence—political or bureaucratic. Unfortunately, it is seen that sometimes the judiciary is overtly influenced by the high-ups or official machinery, or the laws are interpreted to reflect its predilections.

In making appointments of judges, the criteria with the government should be integrity, objectivity
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MODEL PARAGRAPHS

"Love sought is good but given unsought is better."

—*Shakespeare.*

Love like charity blesses both the benefactor as well as the recipient. It is that gift of God which elevates the human heart and purifies the soul within. Instead of asking for any material or tangible favour, one should always seek the lure of love because without love, the manifestation of God is incomplete and incoherent and our existence on earth is stale and sordid. There is no shame in asking for love for 'Love is God'. No prayer or ritual is as ennobling and invigorating as the healing touch of love and all-pervasive passion of love-making. "You must get your living by loving." *H.D. Thoreau.* For transitory glare and glimpse of worldly success, some may surrender themselves before apathy and antipathy but ultimately it is the fragrance of love given unsought that will make our brief sojourn on this planet a matter of pride and pleasure. Like sunshine, love makes human sentiments bloom and blossom in such a way that life becomes a swinging song of joy and gaiety. Miser and malevolent is that heart which has failed to share love with others. "Trust love even if it brings sorrow. Do not close up your heart." *Tagore.*

"You can close your eyes to reality not to memories."

—*Stanilaus Lec.*

Reality stares us in the face; memories haunt our mind and soul. Like a poor pigeon we may close our eyes to rigorous reality confronting us like a cunning cat but consciousness within like a mirror ever throws back the memories and thus remind us of the past which carries in its womb both sweet and sour, proud and puerile recollections. Wisdom lies in facing and fighting reality, however, stark and stagger-

ing it may be than succumbing to memories like a helpless and hapless fellow. Life is a challenge and we can ignore it at our peril only. Realities like birth-pangs have to be borne and its death-like spectre has to be accepted. Only then can we catch the time by fore-lock and transform defeat into victory, failure into success. If out of ignorance we allow the realities to take us for granted, surely the memories of the past would visit us again and again, and make our life not only miserable but also morbid. The history of mankind is replete with examples of such men and women as have stood before the ravaging realities like a rock and tamed and twisted them to their heart's desire and design. In this way they felt at home with their present as well as with their past because they had the courage and conviction to look at reality and memories in their proper perspective.

"Untruth corrodes the soul, truth nourishes it."

—*Mahatma Gandhi*

There is no denying the fact, however unpleasant and unpalatable it may appear to some, that truth nourishes and nurtures human soul whereas untruth corrodes and corrupts it. The cynics may look at truth with disdain and distrust but no sane fellow can deny that if the world has survived moral and spiritual upheavals through the ages, it is due to the unflinching faith of saints and sages, mystics and philosophers, thinkers and reformers, who remained wedded to truth just as fragrance remains glued to the flower. The great epics of the world are an open depiction and description of 'action personified' leading ultimately to the victory of good over evil, truth over untruth. Truth is imperishable as well as indivisible just as soul is

immortal and inviolable. For a poet like Keats, 'Truth is beauty, beauty truth.' Men of destiny have embraced suffering but kept aloft the flag of truth flying and fluttering high and they also brought to their knees all those who had tried to flout and frustrate the voice of God spoken through His chosen 'sons and daughters'. "Everything can be sacrificed for truth, but truth cannot be sacrificed for anything." *Swami Vivekananda.*

"Every religion is good that teaches man to be good."

—*Thomas Paine*

The advent of religion was neither the invention of man nor an accident as has been assumed and understood by the sceptics the world over. In fact the essence of each religion is the voice of God spoken through His selective few so that the stream of life remained free from spiritual sterility and moral morass. Religion, whatever its contours and conceptions, aims at improving the mental make-up of its followers so that the angularities and oddities of emotional, intellectual and spiritual character of man are chiselled and chastened. Religion is our support and sustenance and when even our shadow fails and deserts us in adversity and calamity, it is the tender touch of religion that sustains our drooping hearts and falling spirits. Religion teaches us to enrich our soul and impoverish our greed because the kingdom of God is open for those whose hands are poor but the hearts are rich. Man would have remained an ugly animal satisfying only the physical needs had there been no religion to tame his deadly desires and devilish designs. Therefore "if men are so wicked with religion, what would they be without it?" *Benjamin Franklin.*

How to Fight Fear

What is fear?

Fear is one of the primitive, violent and usually crippling, emotions marked by extensive bodily changes, and by behaviour of the flight or concealment of character.

Fear does not mean cowardice. Cowardice consists in failure to fight fear. The man of courage feels fear and fights: the weakling feels fear and takes to flight or quits.

Umpteen fears

There are umpteen fears of failure, of criticism, of ridicule of strangers, of inadequacy, of inferiority, stage fright (sudden fear and nervousness on facing audience especially for the first time), of persecution, of insanity, of the unknown, of taking a new step, uttering a new word, of expressing an unorthodox idea, of ill-health, of poverty, of death, of the complex, the inexplicable, of crowds, of solitude, of fear itself and a host of others. The last one is perhaps the worst of the lot.

Fear Vs. Positive Action

Psychoanalyst R. May has pointed out that "living without fear in the twentieth century shows weakness of mind... or more accurately, insensitivity, atrophy of mind... a certain amount of anxiety in people is the expected normal reaction." But many of us over-react to the real dangers with disproportionate fear, and our fear leads to feelings of inadequacy, exaggeration of threat and of an unreasoned and self-defeating, "lashing out" at our problems. Normal anxiety can be actually beneficial. It spurs us on when we must work particularly hard. It keeps us alert when a crisis is threatened.

It enables us to fight-or-flee in times of danger. If we were not capable of experiencing normal

anxiety, we should be in a sorry state. It is the morbid anxiety or fear which results in a kind of "creeping paralysis, a feeling of misery, of suffocation, of panic, of defeat", which is to be combated. Normal anxiety is necessary for progress but morbid fear is a road-block to it.

Distinction between feeling, showing and reacting to fear

The distinction between feeling, showing and reacting to fear is often over-looked. We all experience fear but some of us learn to conceal it. As Prof Coleman points out the key factor in dealing with fear is how we can act when we are afraid. "The brave soldier is not the one who experiences no fear, but the one who performs courageously despite it. Not realising this, many people expend their efforts fighting the feeling of fear and trying to deny or conceal it instead of learning to function effectively in spite of it. To the extent that we allow fear or worry to inhibit positive action, we block our own progress."

Sources of fear

Fear is the offspring of imagination which creates the images of evil which may happen, but perhaps rarely do. Thus many persons who are capable of summoning up courage enough to grapple with and overcome real dangers are paralysed or thrown into consternation by those which are imaginary. Unless imagination is held under strict discipline, we are prone to meet evils more than half-way—to suffer them by forestalling and assume the burdens we ourselves create. As a perceptive psychologist has it, "at the bottom of most fears, both mild and severe, will be found an over-active body... we generate fears while we sit; we overcome them by action. Fear is nature's warning signal to get busy."

Effects of fear

Fear robs us of courage and cripples our reasoning power. We tend to hate the things we fear. Fear and hate combined are hardly conducive to reasoned positive action. Fear adds to tension and enhances the desire to flee. Disguised affects of fear are fatigue, worry, sensitivity to criticism, indecision and the centring inward of one's corners. Even mild fear can adversely affect the accuracy of perception and of thought. In the face of intense fear the individual may become panic-stricken and become unable to function.

The effects of fear on personality are fatal because it destroys initiative, poise, ambition and self-confidence. It engenders self-consciousness and inferiority complex.

A man whose mind is filled with fear will lack psychological fitness necessary for attaining levels of "peak performance" in any area of life. Dr Richard Carrier and Joseph Hart who have evolved the concept of "peak performance" explain it thus: "A peak performance does not mean, 'being the best'. It means living your potential. When you live up to your potential in any area then you are given a peak performance."

How to get rid of fear

Your goals in life is presumably success and the realisation of your full inherent potentials. Many psychologists like Maslow, Goldstein and Rogers regard the latter as the most fundamental goal of the human personality. For the achievement of this goal it is necessary for you to get rid of fear.

Ely Culbertson, the Bridge expert, says that the two most important things in self-development are to get rid of fear and to develop a sense of balance. By balance, no doubt, he

means good judgement. There is much truth in this as fear is usually what holds men back, and good judgement enables them to take the right road as they go forward.

Following are some fruitful steps to conquer fear.

Cultivate the habit of conquering fear. The habit of avoiding fear is doubtless, capable of being trained like any other habit such as the habit of concentration, of study or of cheerfulness. You are what your habits are.

Basic Psychology

As Dr Henry Link observes, "Every step in the conquest of fear requires at the outset an act of will." "Remember how you learned to dive. You got yourself poised, then leaned forward, hesitated, and drew back in fear. Again you made the attempt and withdrew. With each hesitation your fear mounted. Finally in angry disgust with yourself, you plunged in arms and legs askew, and with a terrific flop you came up humiliated and embarrassed, the laughter of your friends making you feel still worse."

"If your fears had prevented you from making further attempts, you might have never learned to dive, your fears might have become insurmountable. If, however, you persisted, you finally went in smoothly and came up feeling pleased. You were becoming an expert."

"This is the basic psychology of overcoming fear and gaining confidence in every phase of life", says Dr Link. He adds, "there is no escape from this process."

Thought-control

Fear is aptly described as nothing more than state of mind. One's state of mind is subject to control and direction. Every person has the ability to control his mind. By controlling your thoughts you can master your fears.

Do the things you fear

Whatever you have been afraid of, just go and do it. Stand up to your fear. Emerson says, "Do the thing you fear and the death of fear is certain." Walk upto the person or

thing you fear and take a steady good look at what it is you are afraid of.

Take positive action to meet the challenge of a fear-arousing situation, instead of whining like the guy in A.E. Housman's poem:

*I, a stranger and afraid,
In a world, I never made.*

Do the thing you fear—that is the sure recipe to conquer fear.

Come out of self-deception

As a normal human being goes through life he builds up an extensive repertoire of psychological defence mechanisms which he employs to adjust to ego-involving frustration. "Frustration" means simply the thwarting of a need or desire. Sometimes people reach their goals with relative ease; but sometimes they are prevented from reaching their goals. Their goal directed activity is blocked when frustration and the resultant stress sets in.

Some frustrations cause no more than minor annoyance just a pin-prick or a flea-bite. But some types of frustrations pose real threats to our fundamental needs. Examples are: a mature adult loses his job; the prospect of unemployment involving feelings of insecurity, lowered self-esteem, and loss of social approval; a fear of flunking out of college or of an exam. Any such frustration to the individual's self concept i.e., his awareness of his continuing identity as a person or the individual's assumptions about his identity and worth as a person is said to be "ego-involving". Now ego-involving frustrations are highly painful and call for immediate defence. There are several behaviour devices or mechanisms which we use in self-defence to adjust with ego-involving frustrations. They are called ego defence mechanisms. These are called into play whenever we find ourselves in a situation in which threat to the integrity of the self is present.

Denial of Reality

Perhaps the most dangerous of self-deception is the "I don't care" attitude. The body who can't make the grade in college says, "I don't

care". The girl who can't get a boy says, "I don't care". They do care. Why don't they admit it and try to succeed where success is possible?

Escapism

Another trick used for avoiding unpleasant reality is called 'escapism'. This includes such strategies as procrastination, refusal to face unpalatable situations, and pre-occupation with work or social engagements etc., to such an extent that the individual is just too busy with seemingly important matters to face his real problems. Other commonly used methods of escapism are "not being in the mood" or getting "sick". Like the proverbial ostrich who buries his head in the sand when danger approaches, we fail to take cognizance of many things which are essential for effective adjustment.

The Magic of Dominant Thought

Motives are the dynamos of personality. If your dominant motive is the achievement of success you will plan your destiny accordingly and you will attract success as a magnet attracts iron filings. Let the master-thought "I will succeed" dominate your thinking process.

Remember, nothing succeeds like success-thinking and nothing fails like failure-thinking.

You are Responsible for Your Destiny

It is clear that you are responsible for your own destiny. The responsibility is your job, and the sooner you learn this fact the sooner you will start thinking and acting like a self-reliant human being.

You must accept the fact that it is upto you to control and shape the forces that make life. None outside you has the obligation to shape these for you.

If you do not shoulder full responsibility, the world will shape your destiny not according to your needs, potentialities and ideals but according to its own whims. It has a way of letting those flounder about aimlessly who wait for other men or forces outside themselves to chart the course of their lives for them.

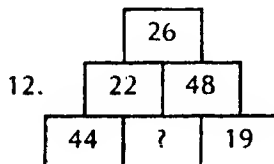
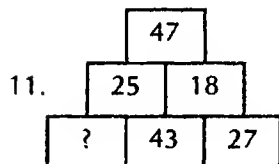
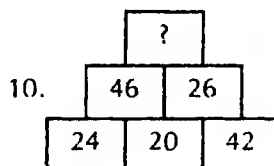
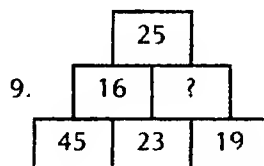
TEST OF REASONING-I

NUMBER SERIES

Find out the missing numbers in the series of numbers given below:

1. 8; 17; 35; 71; 143; ...
2. 11; 10; ...; 100; 1001; 1000; 10001.
3. 8; 13; 16; 17; ...; 13.
4. 24; 6; 18; 9; 36; 9; 24; ...
5. 2; 6; 12; 20; 30; 42; ...
6. 2; 4; 6; ...; 16; 26.
7. 7; 14; 15; 21; ...; 28; 31.
8. 25; 30; ...; 25; 28; 21; 31; 18.

Numbers in questions 9 to 12 follow certain relationship and arrangement. Your task is to find out the missing numbers.



The arrangement of numbers in questions 13 to 16 is according to the same pattern. Find out the missing numbers:

13.

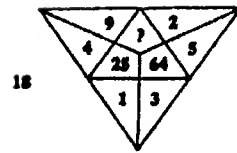
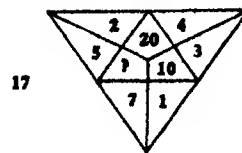
49	52	6
45	104	?
42	52	7
14.

1	55	19
54	93	18
?	38	1
15.

144	69	5
57	?	19
60	152	12
16.

100	55	20
45	330	15
200	?	10

Find out the missing numbers in questions 17 and 18:



19. Which of the following numbers is not the square of any number?

- (a) 529 (b) 289 (c) 441 (d) 676 (e) 568

20. Which of the following number is divisible by 2, 3, 7 and 13?

- (a) 1092 (b) 1008 (c) 1456 (d) 936 (e) 1156

LETTER SERIES

Find the odd-man out:

21. (a) IPW (b) ELS (c) AHO
(d) GNU (e) JQY
22. (a) BdG (b) WyB (c) OqT
(d) KmO (e) Egl
23. (a) TrsP (b) ZwxV (c) NlmJ
(d) HfgD (e) JhiF
24. (a) UZP (b) LQG (c) JOE
(d) RWN (e) NSI
25. (a) BcaF (b) KljO (c) QrpU
(d) FgeK (e) TusX

Find out missing letters and numbers in the following questions:

26.

K	13	O	?	S	21
11	M	15	?	19	U

27.

T	20	?	10	P	16
2	B	?	R	23	W

28.

T	D	C
8	13	6
B	M	L
9	7	11
?	J	L
	7	10

CODING-DECODING

Words on left are written in their coded form on the right. Your task is to find out the right code letter for the letter in box:

29. B U R D E N

(a) n (b) y (c) v (d) p (e) h (f) g

30. D E T A I L

(a) z (b) h (c) k (d) f (e) t (f) v

31. S P R O U T

(a) p (b) q (c) n (d) k (e) j (f) w

32. B L O U S E

(a) t (b) g (c) v (d) q (e) w (f) n

33. C A S T L E

(a) q (b) t (c) r (d) v (e) z (f) k

If according to a certain code:

'Trains are always late' means

'Captain wants four tanks.'

'Boys were never late' means

'We have three tanks.'

'Trains were rather overcrowded' means

Soldiers have informed captain.'

'Boys are rather naughty' means

'We need four soldiers.'

34. What is the code for 'four'?

(a) trains (b) are (c) always (d) late

35. What does 'overcrowded' mean?

(a) we (b) have (c) informed
(d) captain

36. If COMBINE is coded as BPLCHOD decode-OFQTNOZM

STATISTICS

A company pays its employees as follows:

H.R.A. is 22% of the salary.

D.A. is 36% of the salary.

C.A. is 5% of the salary + H.R.A. + D.A.

8% of the total of salary, house rent allowance and dearness allowance is given as conveyance allowance. All amounts are rounded up to the next rupee. The junior supervisor Ramesh gets Rs 2500 as salary and the pay of Surendra, the senior supervisor is Rs 2800.

On the basis of the facts stated above, answer the following questions:

37. What is the difference in the amount of H.R.A. (house rent allowance) drawn by the two employees?

(a) Rs 56 (b) Rs 54 (c) Rs 66 (d) Rs 58

38. How much more conveyance allowance does

Surendra get in comparison to Ramesh?

(a) Rs 38 (b) Rs 46 (c) Rs 48 (d) Rs 42

39. How much conveyance allowance does Surendra get?

(a) Rs 324 (b) Rs 412 (c) Rs 354
(d) Rs 374

40. If 12% is deducted from the total amount (all allowances included) how much would Surendra get in hand?

(a) Rs 4400 (b) Rs 4800 (c) Rs 4200
(d) Rs 4550

41. What is the city allowance of Ramesh?

(a) Rs 207 (b) Rs 198 (c) Rs 166
(d) Rs 188

42. If both spend 15% of their income (pay + all the allowances included) on the education of their children, Ramesh has two children and Surendra three, what is the average expenditure on the education of each child?

(a) Rs 198 (b) Rs 284 (c) Rs 302
(d) Rs 258

43. If Surendra is paying Rs 860 per month as house-rent, what extra percentage is he paying from his pay? (Approximately)

(a) 10.2% (b) 2.8% (c) 6.32%
(d) 8.71%

44. If Ramesh gets a rise of 15% in his salary, how much more D.A. would he be getting?

(a) Rs 210 (b) Rs 175 (c) Rs 135
(d) Rs 160

LOGICAL DIAGRAMS

In questions given below, items in questions are represented by figures A, B, C, D, E and F on the basis of their relationship. Each individual figure represents one item irrespective of its size and shape. Your task is to match the right parts.

45. chair : furniture : table

46. men : women : employed

47. television : house : room

48. women : doctors : specialization

49. primary : schools : secondary

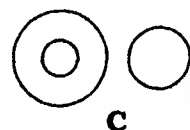
50. hospitals : dispensary : wards



A



B



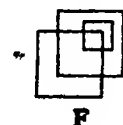
C



D



E



F

ANSWERS AND EXPLANATIONS

1. 287. The arrangement is $(8 \times 2) + 1$; $(17 \times 2) + 1$...
2. 101. Two series, 11; 101; 1001... and 10, 100, 1000 ... are repeated alternately.
3. 16. Add 5; 3; 1 to numbers then subtract them in the reverse order, i.e., 1; 3; 5...
4. 12. Form sets of two; each first number is four times and then two times of the second one.
5. 56. Go on adding 4, 6, 8, 10... to numbers.
6. 10. Each number is the total of two preceding numbers.
7. 23. There are two series, one with a difference of 8 and the other with a difference of seven; 7, 15, 23... and 14, 21, 28... respectively.
8. 26. Again there are two series, 25; 26; 28; 31... (adding an extra 'one') and 30; 25; 21; 18... (subtracting one less).
9. to 12. For each next question '1' is added to all the numbers and then rotate clockwise.

9. 41	10. 17	11. 21	12. 28
-------	--------	--------	--------
13. 15. The arrangement is as follows:
 $7^2 = 49$; $45 + 7 = 52$; $49 + 42 + 7 + 6 = 104$;
 $15 \times 3 = 45$ and $104 - 52 = 52$
14. 19
15. 221
16. 275
17. 74. The numbers in the inner triangle are total of squares of their adjoining triangles e.g., $2^2 + 4^2 = 20$; $3^2 + 1^2 = 10$; $5^2 + 7^2 = 74$.
18. 121. The pattern is $(9 + 2)^2$; $(5 + 3)^2$ and $(4 + 1)^2$
19. (e)
20. (a)
21. (e)
22. (d)
23. (b)
24. (d)
25. (d)
26. $\frac{17}{Q}$. Letters and their corresponding numbers, according to their position in the alphabetical order, go zig-zagging, dropping one letter/number.
27. $\frac{J}{18}$. Letters in the top row have their corresponding number to their right and in the lower one, to their left.
28. E10. The total of numbers and the numbers given to letters according to their position in the alphabetical.
29. to 35. Sort out common letters/words in words/sentences and match them with common letters/words in codes.

29. (b)	30. (d)	31. (a)	32. (f)
33. (c)	34. (b)	35. (c)	
36. PERSONAL. First letter in code is the preceding letter and second one, the next letter in alphabets. The same process is repeated till end.
37. (c)
38. (a)
39. (c)
40. (a)
41. (b)
42. (b)
43. (d)
44. (c)
45. B. Chair and table are individual items but both are pieces of furniture.
46. E. Some men and some women are employed.
47. A. Television sets are in rooms and rooms are in houses.
48. F. Some women are doctors and some of them go for specialization.
49. D. Primary and secondary, both are types of schools and some of the secondary schools have primary classes as well.
50. C. Hospitals have wards while dispensary is a different independent item.

TEST OF REASONING

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TEST OF REASONING-II

ODD-MAN

Find the odd-man out:

- | | |
|--------------------|------------------|
| 1. (a) etymology | (b) anthropology |
| (c) philology | (d) lexicology |
| (e) vocabulary | |
| 2. (a) rough | (b) uneven |
| (c) rugged | (d) asperous |
| (e) glossy | |
| 3. (a) estuary | (b) gulf |
| (c) peninsula | (d) strait |
| (e) bay | |
| 4. (a) Australia | (b) Japan |
| (c) Africa | (d) America |
| (e) Europe | |
| 5. (a) collar | (b) cravat |
| (c) necklace | (d) bangle |
| (e) neck-tie | |
| 6. (a) boil | (b) sore |
| (c) dyspepsia | (d) pimple |
| (e) carbuncle | |
| 7. (a) conclusion | (b) terminus |
| (c) finale | (d) culmination |
| (e) intermission | |
| 8. (a) cannon-ball | (b) sword |
| (c) bullet | (d) arrow |
| (e) missile | |

ANALOGIES

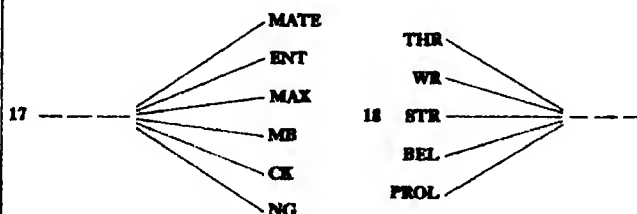
The first pair of words in questions given below has certain relationship. Your task is to tick-mark the right choice for the second set with a similar and matching relationship.

- yield : resist :: sensible : ?
(a) unconscious (b) dashing
(c) impulsive (d) stupid
(e) non-sense
- Barmer : desert :: Philippines : ?
(a) Pacific (b) East-Indies
(c) Australia (d) Islands
(e) King Phillip
- inspiration : poetry :: ? : disease
(a) medicine (b) suffering
(c) germs (d) hospital
(e) doctor
- Manipuri : dance :: Urdu : ?
(a) Muslims (b) dialect
(c) poetry (d) language
(e) Mushaira

- en masse : French :: via media : ?
(a) Latin (b) Sanskrit
(c) English (d) Persian
(e) Russian
- barter : exchange :: ? : refuge
(a) refugee (b) help
(c) safety (d) India
(e) asylum
- milk : butter :: ? : pottery
(a) tea-set (b) clay
(c) bone-China (d) glass
(e) dining-table
- childhood : adolescence :: ? : spring
(a) sofa-set (b) jump
(c) winter (d) flowers
(e) summer

LEXICAL ITEMS

Which set of three letters can be added before/after the following set of letters to form words:



Which words (number of letters depending upon dashes in brackets) can be suffixed to the word on the left and prefixed the word on the right to make popular terms.

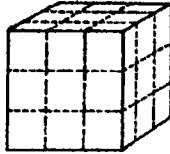
- WALK (— — —) DOOR
- MAKE (— — —) STAIRS

Find out words for brackets (number of letters in words depending upon number of blanks in brackets) that can be added to set of letters on right as well as on left to form words.

- MAR(— — —)GER
- COM(— — —)AGE
- RES(— — —)ER

LOGICAL DEDUCTIONS

If a big cube painted in three colours on opposite sides is cut in 27 equal parts as shown in the figure:



24. How many small cubes will there be with only one face painted?

- (a) 4 (b) 6 (c) 8 (d) 12 (e) 18

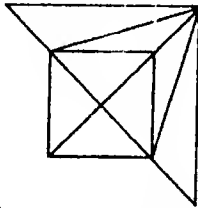
25. How many will have two faces painted in two different colours?

- (a) 6 (b) 8 (c) 12 (d) 16 (e) 18

26. How many will have three painted sides in three different colours?

- (a) 4 (b) 6 (c) 8 (d) 12 (e) 18

27. Count the maximum number of triangles in the figure given below:

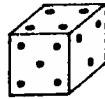
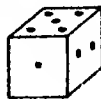


- (a) 8 (b) 12 (c) 16 (d) 18 (e) 20

28. How many four sided figures are there?

- (a) 1 (b) 2 (c) 3 (d) 4 (e) 5

Given below are two positions of the same dice. Study the arrangement of numbers on different faces and answer the questions that follow:



29. What number is opposite 5?

30. Which number is opposite 2?

Seven children A, B, C, D, E, F and G are standing in a straight line according to the following order:

C is between A and G.

B is to the left of E.

D and C have two children between them.

G is between C and E.

31. Who is exactly in the middle?

32. Who is on the extreme left?

33. A team of four boys from A, B, C, D, E, F and G has to be selected according to the following conditions:

A and C must be together.

B and G cannot be together.

D cannot be paired with A.

B and F must be together.

D and E must be together.

C and F cannot be in the same set.

Which four boys have been selected for the team?

(a) ABCF

(b) ACDE

(c) BDEG

(d) BDEF

The total age of A, B and C is 55. B is 10 years younger than C and A is three times as old as C.

34. What is the age of A?

(a) 42

(b) 33

(c) 36

(d) 39

35. How old is B?

(a) 3

(b) 4

(c) 5

(d) 6

Five girls A, B, C, D and E have put on pink, yellow, red, blue and green dresses but not in the same order. Study the following statements and match the girls with the right colour of dress accordingly.

B and E are not wearing pink or red.

C and D are neither wearing red nor blue.

Yellow dress has not been put on by D or A.

B is not wearing blue.

Green dress has not been put on by D or C.

36. A (a) pink

37. B (b) yellow

38. C (c) red

39. D (d) blue

40. E (e) green

NON-VERBAL SERIES

Given below are two sets of figures, the Problem Figures and the Answer Figures marked A, B, C, D and E. Your task is to find out which of the Answer Figures would fit in place of the question-mark in the Problem Figures.

PROBLEM FIGURES

41		?
42		?
43		?

ANSWER FIGURES

A	B	C	D	E

44					?
45					?
46					?
47					?
48					?
49					?
50					?

ANSWERS AND EXPLANATIONS

- (b) It is the only science in the group that is not connected with language and words.
 - (e) All the others mean almost the same.
 - (c) All the other terms are used for sea while peninsula is land.
 - (b) All the others are continents.
 - (d) It is the only item that is not concerned or connected with neck.
 - (c) All the others are eruptions on skin.
 - (e) All the terms are connected with 'end'.
 - (b) All the others are thrown to hit.
 - (d) The words are opposites.
 - (a) The relationship is that of the particular place and the area in which it is situated.
 - (c) The relationship is that of the cause and its result.
 - (d) One is a particular item of the other category.
 - (a) The words adopted in English belong to the languages mentioned against them.
 - (e) They both mean the same type of arrangement.
 - (b) The relationship is that of the matter and its product.
 - (e) The second one follows the first one.
 - CLI
 - ONG
 - OUT
 - UP
 - GIN
 - PASS
 - POND
 - (b)
 - (c)
 - (c)
 - (c)
 - 6
 - 4
 - C
 - B
 - (d)
 - (d)
 - (a)
 - (c)
 - (e)
 - (b)
 - (a)
 - (d)
- B. The movement of the circle is zig-zag, that of the square is anti-clockwise and the third figure goes up and down by turns.
 - E. The flag moves towards right going up and down and changing direction, the circle moves along three points anti-clockwise and the cross along corners, clockwise.
 - B. The figure inside the circle changes alternately and the other small circle and arrow move at a regular pace in opposite directions.
 - A. The whole figure rotates clockwise; the circle moves towards the other end, the edge of the inner figure changes alternately and the curve at the end goes right and left by turns.
 - C. Circle hops right and left and the arrow-head goes to the other end slowly changing direction alternately.
 - A. The whole figure rotates clockwise; the circle at the opening and arms of the swastika change alternately and the black spot moves along with it.
 - C. The figure tilts right and left with circle going to the other end and coming back and the other curve slowly moving towards the other edge.
 - D. The main figure rotates anti-clockwise but the small circles move faster and go one step ahead adding one circle with each step.
 - D. One line is added in the bar and the two straight lines move to the other side but their gap increases.
 - E. The triangles move along the three points anti-clockwise but change direction, the other two circles interchange places with each step.

TEST OF REASONING-III

SYLLOGISM

TYPE I

In the following statements, a situation has been explained in a few sentences followed by a conclusion. You have to say whether the conclusion:

- (a) necessarily follows from the statements.
- (b) is only a long drawn one.
- (c) definitely does not follow from the statements.
- (d) is doubtful, as the data provided is inadequate.

Note: Your answers should only be in the light of the statements given.

Statements:

- (1) 1. Parents help their school-going children at home to learn different subjects.
- 2. They usually appoint tutors for teaching Mathematics to the children.

Conclusion: Mathematics taught in schools these days is different from Mathematics they learnt in schools.

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐

Statements:

- (2) 1. Houses are thoroughly cleaned before festivals.
- 2. Mr and Mrs Smith are getting their house cleaned these days.

Conclusion: They are making preparations for some festival.

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐

Statements:

- (3) 1. After returning from foreign countries, the Prime Minister generally addresses a Press Conference.
- 2. The Prime Minister has just returned from a visit to foreign countries.

Conclusion: He will address a Press Conference now.

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐

Statements:

- (4) 1. Ground water Projects are extremely useful in deserts where surface water is not available.
- 2. In area 'X' most of the farmers have tubewells.

Conclusion: Area 'X' is situated in a desert.

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐

Statements:

- (5) 1. When party X was in power, party Y criticised it for making irresponsible statements.
- 2. The members of party X are criticising the leaders of party Y these days for the same

reason.

Conclusion: Party Y is in power these days.

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐

Statements:

- (6) 1. Kidnappers often kill their victims if ransom demanded is not received within time limits.
- 2. The son of Mr X was kidnapped while returning from school.
- 3. He was killed by the kidnappers after two days.

Conclusion: Mr X failed to arrange the money demanded by the kidnappers.

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐

Statements:

- (7) 1. The Central employees work for five days per week only.
- 2. The State employees work for six days per week.

Conclusion: The State employees work more than the Central employees.

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐

Statements:

- (8) 1. Lack of sleep causes sickness.
- 2. Some people keep on sleeping the whole time.

Conclusion: Such people are healthier than most of us.

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐

Statements:

- (9) 1. More and more devices are being constantly invented to make life easy.
- 2. These new devices sell like hot cakes as soon as they appear in market.

Conclusion: Customers do not mind spending hard earned money if the things bought can add to their comforts.

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐

Statements:

- (10) 1. The planet Mercury is associated with intelligence.
- 2. In its movement round the sun, it keeps on coming near or going afar from our earth.

Conclusion: When it is near the earth we all become intellectuals and when it is far we behave in a stupid way.

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐

TYPE II

In making decisions about important questions, it is desirable to be able to distinguish between strong arguments and weak arguments so far as they are related to the ques-

tion. Weak arguments may not be directly connected with the question, may be of minor importance or may be related to some trivial aspect of the question. Each question given below is followed by arguments I and II. You have to decide which of the arguments is 'strong' and which is 'weak'. Then decide which of the answers given below and numbered (a), (b), (c), (d) and (e) is the correct answer.

- (a) Only I is strong.
 (b) Only II is strong.
 (c) Both I and II are strong.
 (d) Either I or II is strong.
 (e) Neither I nor II is strong.
11. Is one ever satisfied with money?
 I. Yes, when one gets what he wanted, he ought to be satisfied.
 II. No, the more one gets the more one wants.
 (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐
12. Should small children be allowed to see dead bodies?
 I. Yes, the sooner they learn the bitter truths of life, the better.
 II. No, death has nothing to do with children.
 (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐
13. Should sweets be eaten at the end of the meal?
 I. Yes, they leave a nice taste in mouth.
 II. No, they may cause cavity in teeth.
 (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐
14. Will big cities ultimately swallow up the green suburbs?
 I. Yes, they are growing at a terrible pace in all directions.
 II. No, fresh constructions are not allowed in suburbs.
 (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐
15. Are married men jealous of bachelors?
 I. Yes, they envy a bachelor's carefree life and the freedom he enjoys.
 II. No, they pity him for not having a regular home and family of his own.
 (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐
16. Will the dowry system ever end?
 I. Yes, many agencies are trying to put an end to this social evil.
 II. No, when the giver and the taker both are willing parties, the transaction cannot be stopped.
 (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐
17. Does over-weight add to one's personality?
 I. Yes, over-weight gives people a look of well-being and superiority.
 II. No, they are unable to move about smartly.
 (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐
18. A cyclist was run down by a truck driver, will the truck driver be penalised?
 I. Yes, he was responsible for killing the cyclist.
 II. No, the cyclist was on the wrong side.
 (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐
19. Are persons living in slum areas not healthy?
 I. Yes, the dirt around causes various ailments.

- II. No, they become immune to the atmosphere around them and are not affected adversely by the dirt.

(a) (b) (c) (d) (e)

20. Does public in general feel safe if there are some policemen around?

I. Yes, policemen guarantee peace and safety.

II. No, the Police Department is famous for its atrocities and malpractices.

(a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

TYPE III

In questions given below, statements 1 and 2 are followed by conclusions I and II. Taking the statements to be true although they may appear at variance with commonly accepted facts, mark your answers as under:

- (a) Only I follows.
 (b) Only II follows.
 (c) Both I and II follow.
 (d) Either I or II follows.
 (e) Neither I nor II follows.

Statements:

21. 1. All birds are books.
 2. Some books are flowers.

Conclusions:

- I. Some birds are flowers.
 II. None of the birds is a flower.
 (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

Statements:

22. 1. Some pencils are diamonds.
 2. Some diamonds are glasses.

Conclusions:

- I. Some glasses are pencils.
 II. Some glasses are not diamonds.
 (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

Statements:

23. 1. All lawyers are doctors.
 2. All doctors are clerks.

Conclusions:

- I. All clerks are doctors.
 II. All lawyers are clerks.
 (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

Statements:

24. 1. Some cities are lakes.
 2. All lakes are mountains.

Conclusions:

- I. Some mountains are cities.
 II. Some cities are not mountains.
 (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

Statements:

25. 1. Only those teachers do not teach Primary classes who do not wear caps.
 2. Only those teachers do not wear caps who do not use spectacles.

Conclusions:

- I. Teachers who teach Primary classes wear caps as well as spectacles.
- II. No teacher wears both.
(a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

Statements:

26. 1. Men generally discuss their official problems whenever they meet.
2. Mr X, Mr Y and Mr Z are having dinner together.

Conclusions:

- I. They must be discussing official matters.
- II. They are talking about other things.
(a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

Statements:

27. 1. All girls who do not like ice-creams are fond of cold drinks.
2. Only those girls were relishing cold-drinks who were wearing red dresses.

Conclusions:

- I. Girls in red-dress do not like ice-creams.
- II. All the girls who were not wearing red dress are fond of ice-creams.
(a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

Statements:

28. 1. During recent elections, poll violence was reported from many centres.
2. 'X' was a polling station.

Conclusions:

- I. There was violence at 'X'.
- II. Elections went on peacefully there.
(a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

TYPE IV

In questions given below, a statement is followed by implications I and II. Tick mark your answers:

- (a) if only I is implicit.
- (b) if only II is implicit.
- (c) if both I and II are implicit.
- (d) if either I or II is implicit.
- (e) if neither I nor II is implicit.

Statement:

29. In most of the films, the villain is punished and the hero and the heroine meet to get married and live happily ever after.

Implications:

- I. When a couple in love gets married, all the troubles and worries are over.
- II. Most of the cinegoers are romantic by nature and feel happy when poetic justice is done.
(a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

Statement:

30. Self-confidence is the key-note to success.

Implications:

- I. No other quality is needed for success.

- II. A self-confident person never seeks advice from anyone else.
(a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

Statement:

31. Students, contesting for university elections, spend money freely.

Implications:

- I. Their parents are extremely rich.
- II. They are supported by leading political parties secretly, who sponsor the whole show.
(a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

Statement:

32. Goons, who are appointed by political parties, soon become unmanageable.

Implications:

- I. The goons don't stop where the political parties like to draw the line.
- II. The political parties adopt underhand tricks for their selfish interests and ulterior motives.
(a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

Statement:

33. More and more small-scale industries are trying to export their products.

Implications:

- I. Export business is very profitable.
- II. There is no market for their goods in India.
(a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

Statement:

34. A high percentage of population is living below poverty-line.

Implications:

- I. The government is doing nothing to help them.
- II. The rest of the population is enjoying wealth and prosperity.
(a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

TYPE V

In questions given below, assertion 'A' is followed by reasons RI and RII. Your task is to apply RI and RII to A and tick mark your answers as under:

- (a) Only RI is the reason for A.
- (b) Only RII is the reason for A.
- (c) Both RI and RII are reasons for A.
- (d) Either RI or RII is the reason for A.
- (e) Neither RI nor RII is the reason for A.

35. A. Many young men from the Kashmir valley are trained by the Pak militants to become terrorists.

RI. The youngmen are attracted by this exciting way of earning easy money.

RII. Pakistan is trying to create panic in the valley by making these youngmen kill their own brethren.

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

36. A. The ambitious youths read newspapers and magazines very thoroughly.

- RI. They want to be upto date about all the affairs that are worth knowing.
 RII. They have no other work to do.
 (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐
37. A. Cigarette companies are not allowed to advertise through the TV media.
 RI. The TV authorities do not encourage any advertisement that may be injurious to health.
 RII. The companies are not in a position to pay the heavy charges of TV advertisements.
 (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐
38. A. All holy places and pilgrimage centres are flooded with beggars.
 RI. The pilgrims who go to these people give generously to these beggars in the hope that it is a way of pleasing God.
 RII. The beggars who flock these places are religious minded.
 (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐
39. A. There is a great stress these days on education being job-oriented.
 RI. Such an education ensures job security.
 RII. It is very difficult to find technically trained hands these days.
 (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐
40. A. Every five-star hotel has a swimming tank these days.
 RI. It saves the hotel the cost of providing an attached bath to every room.
 RII. It is an added attraction to the tourists and adds to the glamour of the hotel.
 (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

TYPE VI

At the end of the passage given below, some conclusions have been drawn. On the basis of the study of the paragraph, mark your answers as under:

- A. Definitely true.
 B. Probably true.
 C. Can't say as the data provided is inadequate.
 D. Probably false.
 E. Definitely false.

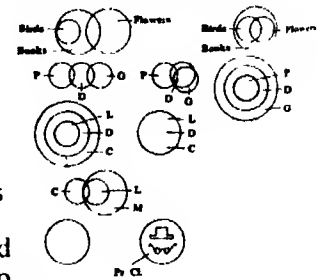
It's holiday time and people are looking for new ways to relax or get away from it all. In Asia this year, technology promises to help. In fact, the application of technology to recreational pursuits has become a serious business. The advanced devices have filtered down to the tourist market. For example there are specially designed submarines to take tourists beneath the surface of the ocean to view the spectrum of sea life that in normal circumstances they can only expect to experience on screen. The Japanese have gone a step further. Visitors to Osaka's Expo '90 can see a dramatic manifestation of the power of creative projection. The 3-D movie technology comes replete with hemispheric screen where visitors reach out to touch the image of animals and flowers.

41. Sea-life is no different from life on land.
 A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐
42. The 3-D technology is a Japanese invention.

- A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐
43. Tourists always want something novel and unusual during holidays.
 A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐
44. Previously, technology for recreational purposes was not a regular business.
 A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐
45. It is not safe to travel in submarines and go beneath the surface of ocean.
 A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐

ANSWERS AND EXPLANATIONS

1. (a) Obviously; otherwise they would teach Mathematics themselves.
2. (c) There could be other reasons.
3. (d) The word 'generally' makes it doubtful.
4. (b) The conclusion is drawn on an accepted fact.
5. (a) That is how the roles are reversed.
6. (b) The reason for killing him could be different e.g. revenge; terrorising etc.
7. (c) No mention has been made of working hours.
8. (c) Excess of everything is bad.
9. (a) The conclusion clearly follows.
10. (c) Association does not mean total control.
11. (b) The first lacks weightage.
12. (e) First is related to a different and weak aspect and the II is wrong.
13. (c) Both are wrong as they imply that mouth is not cleaned after meals.
14. (a) The second is related to a trivial aspect.
15. (c) Both have their strong points.
16. (b) The II is stronger than the I.
17. (e) The arguments are not directly related to the question and are independent statements.
18. (d) Either could happen.
19. (c) Both the arguments are strong in their own way
20. (a) The argument is related to a different aspect.
21. (d) So only one of the two is possible.
22. (e) Nothing can be said definitely.
23. (b) Only II conclusion positively follows.
24. (c) Both the conclusions follow.
25. (a) Draw two figures and go on adding things to them according to statements.
26. (d)
27. (c)
28. (d)
29. (b)
30. (e)
31. (b)
32. (c)
33. (a)
34. (e)
35. (c)
36. (a)
37. (a)
38. (a)
39. (e)
40. (b)
41. D. Probably false otherwise it won't attract the tourists who need novelty.
42. C. It can't be said as who invented the technology.
43. A. The conclusion is obvious.
44. B. The passage gives the impression that it is a recent development, hence, probably true.
45. D. Visitors are eager to go there so it must be safe.



Quantitative Aptitude

1. A person goes from one place to another place at a distance of 200 km with a speed of 50 km/hr and returns with a speed of 40 km/hr. What is his average speed during the entire journey?
 - (a) 45 km/hr
 - (b) 44.4 km/hr
 - (c) 44 km/hr
 - (d) 42 km/hr
2. Two trains with their speed in the ratio of 3 : 4 are going in opposite directions along parallel tracks. If they each take 3 seconds to cross a telegraph post, in what time they cross each other completely?
 - (a) 3 seconds
 - (b) 4 seconds
 - (c) 7 seconds
 - (d) 21 seconds
3. A train takes 1 second to cross a telegraph post and 3 seconds to cross a platform 300 metres long. What is the length of the train?
 - (a) 100 metres
 - (b) 150 metres
 - (c) 200 metres
 - (d) 300 metres
4. Jack bought two fans for Rs 720. By selling one of them at a profit of 15% and the other at a loss of 12%, he found that he neither gained nor lost on the whole. The cost price of the fans are:
 - (a) Rs 320 and Rs 400
 - (b) Rs 300 and Rs 420
 - (c) Rs 285 and Rs 435
 - (d) Rs 270 and Rs 450
5. A man sold a car at a profit of 20%. Had he sold the car at a profit of 25%, he would have got Rs 2460 more. The cost of the car is:
 - (a) Rs 4920
 - (b) Rs 2460
 - (c) Rs 49200
 - (d) Rs 24600
6. How many planks of the same greatest possible lengths a merchant will get out of three pieces of timber 35 m, 42 m and 63 m long?
 - (a) 18
 - (b) 19
 - (c) 20
 - (d) 21
 - (e) None of these
7. I engaged a man for a certain number of days for Rs 17 25. He was absent for some days. I paid him Rs 9.20. What was his daily wages?
 - (a) 3.15
 - (b) 2.75
 - (c) 2.15
 - (d) 1.15
 - (e) None of these
8. Which of the following fractions is the smallest?
 - (a) $\frac{5}{8}$
 - (b) 0.72
 - (c) $\frac{12}{16}$
 - (d) $\frac{5.5}{8}$
 - (e) None of these
9. Which of the following fractions is the largest?
 - (a) $\frac{11}{12}$
 - (b) 0.91
 - (c) $\frac{6.3}{7}$
 - (d) $\frac{8.3}{9}$
 - (e) None of these
10. A group of 7 children has an average age of 12 years. One of them aged 6 leaves the group. What would be the average age of the rest of the members of the group after 2 years?
 - (a) 12
 - (b) 13
 - (c) $14\frac{1}{2}$
 - (d) 15
 - (e) None of these
11. A number is as much greater than 19 as is less than 59. Find the number.
 - (a) 29
 - (b) 37
 - (c) 39
 - (d) 47
 - (e) None of these
12. Find the number which when divided by 9 is diminished by 40.
 - (a) 36
 - (b) 45
 - (c) 54
 - (d) 63
 - (e) None of these
13. Find a number whose fourth part increased by 5 is equal to its third part diminished by 5.
 - (a) 96
 - (b) 108
 - (c) 132
 - (d) 120
 - (e) None of these
14. 100 oranges were distributed among friends equally. Had there been 5 more friends, each would have received one orange less. How many were they?
 - (a) 50
 - (b) 25
 - (c) 20
 - (d) 10
 - (e) None of these
15. A car completes a journey in 5 hours, the first half at the rate of 42 km/hour and the second half at the rate of 48 km/hour. How much distance did it travel?
 - (a) 212 km
 - (b) 224 km
 - (c) 210 km
 - (d) 1230 km
 - (e) None of these
16. If a reduction of 21% in the price of sugar enables me to buy 10.5 kg more for Rs 100, the reduced price will be:
 - (a) Rs 2.50
 - (b) Rs 2.25
 - (c) Rs 2.00
 - (d) Rs 2.30
 - (e) None of these
17. A student gets 40 marks and fails by 40 marks whereas he needed 40% to get a pass. What is the total number of marks?
 - (a) 200
 - (b) 300
 - (c) 250
 - (d) 350
 - (e) None of these
18. After deduction of 10% from a certain sum, and then 20% from the remainder, there are Rs 360 left. What was the original sum?
 - (a) Rs 600
 - (b) Rs 550
 - (c) Rs 500
 - (d) Rs 450
 - (e) None of these
19. Marked price of an article is 25% above cost price. What will be gain % after allowing a discount of 12% to the customer?
 - (a) 20
 - (b) 15
 - (c) 10
 - (d) 8
 - (e) None of these
20. Apples are bought 11 for Rs 10 and sold 10 for Rs 11. What will be the gain%?
 - (a) 21
 - (b) 20
 - (c) 23
 - (d) 25
 - (e) None of these
21. A sum of money lent at a simple interest amounts to Rs 2520 in 2 years and to Rs 2700 in 5 years. What is the rate of interest?
 - (a) 5
 - (b) 4
 - (c) $2\frac{1}{2}$
 - (d) $3\frac{1}{2}$
 - (e) None of these
22. In how many years will the sum of Rs 500 amount to Rs

OBJECTIVE-TYPE QUESTIONS

600 at 5%?

- (a) 2 (b) 6 (c) 5 (d) 4 (e) None of these

23. What will be the sum if the difference between compound interest and simple interest for 2 years at 5% is Rs 5?

- (a) 4000 (b) 3500 (c) 2000 (d) 2500
(e) None of these

24. Two taps fill a tank in 10 and 15 hours respectively and a third tap empties it in 8 hours. In how many hours will the tank be filled if all the taps are open?

- (a) 20 (b) 25 (c) 24 (d) 15 (e) None of these

25. 20% of a number when added to 20 becomes the number itself. What is the number?

- (a) 20 (b) 25 (c) 50 (d) 100 (e) None of these

26. The sum of two digits of a number is nine. When 9 is subtracted from the number, the digits change their places. What is the number?

- (a) 45 (b) 36 (c) 54 (d) 72
(e) None of these

27. How many lead balls, each of radius $\frac{1}{2}$ cm, can be made from a sphere whose radius is 4 cm?

- (a) 312 (b) 412 (c) 512 (d) 600
(e) None of these

28. A sphere, whose diameter is 6 cm, is melted and drawn into a wire of radius one mm. What is the length of the wire?

- (a) 20 m (b) 30 m (c) 36 m (d) 40 m
(e) None of these

29. Find the depth of a tank whose base is a square of side 5 m, if it can hold as much water as another tank whose dimensions are 10 m by 5 m by 2 m.

- (a) 4 m (b) 6 m (c) 8 m (d) 10 m
(e) None of these

30. The surface of a cube is 54 sq m. Find its edge:

- (a) 9 m (b) 6 m (c) 4 m (d) 3 m (e) None of these

ANSWERS AND EXPLANATIONS

1. (b) He goes 200 km in 4 hrs and returns (200 km) in 5 hrs

He covers in 9 hours a distance of 400 km
Average speed per hour = $400 \div 9 = 44.4$

2. (a)

3. (b) The train has to traverse its own length + length of the platform in 3 seconds

Length of platform = 300

Length of train = 150

$(300 + 150) \div 3 = 150$

4. (d) 15% gain on Rs 270 is equal to 9% loss on 450 i.e., Rs 40.50 respectively

5. (c) Suppose C.P. = 100

S.P. at 20% profit = 120

S.P. at 25% profit = 125

Diff = 5

If diff 5, C.P. = 100

If diff 2460, C.P. = $\frac{2460 \times 100}{5} = 49200$

6. (c) Divide the numbers by their H.C.F. and add.

7. (d) L.C.M. of Rs 9.20 and (17.25-9.20).

8. (a)

9. (d)

10. (d)

11. (c) $x = \frac{19 + 59}{2}$

12. (b) $x = \frac{x}{9} + 40$

13. (d) $\frac{x}{4} + 5 = \frac{x}{3} - 5$, then find x.

14. (c) $\frac{100}{x} = \frac{100}{x+5} + 1$, then find x.

15. (b) $(\frac{x}{42} + \frac{x}{48} = 5)$, then multiply by 2 the value of x

16. (c) Reduced price per kilogramme

$$= \frac{(100 \times 21)}{100} \div 10.5 = \text{Rs } 2.$$

17. (a) Total number of marks = $\frac{100}{40} \times (40 + 40)$

18. (c) $x = 360 \times \frac{100}{(100-10)} \times \frac{100}{(100-20)}$

19. (c) $x = \frac{125 \times 88}{100} - 100$

20. (a) Let L.C.M. of 11 and 10 be the number of apples.

21. (c) Rate of interest = $\frac{\text{Interest} \times 100}{\text{Sum} \times \text{Time}}$

22. (d)

23. (c)

24. (c) $(\frac{1}{10} + \frac{1}{15} - \frac{1}{8}) = \frac{1}{24}$ or in 24 hours.

25. (b)

26. (c)

27. (c) $\frac{\text{Volume of sphere}}{\text{Volume of lead shot}} = \text{Number of shots,}$

whereas $V = \frac{4}{3} \pi r^3$

28. (c) $h = \frac{\frac{4}{3} \pi r^3}{\pi r^2}$

29. (a)

Depth = $\frac{(\text{length} \times \text{breadth} \times \text{depth}) \text{ of one tank}}{(\text{length} \times \text{breadth}) \text{ of the other tank}}$

30. (d) Surface area $(54) = 6l^2$,

$\therefore l = \sqrt{\frac{54}{6}}$ of a cube

ENGLISH LANGUAGE

There is a grammatical error in one part (1, 2, 3 and 4) each of the following sentences. Find out the error. In case there is no error, the answer is 5.

1. She has (1) been projected a picture of (2) happy motherhood and not the notorious spendthrift (3) and flirt that she was reputed to be (4). No error (5).

2. There are individuals (1) in this country who with their own (2) initiative have been experimenting with the (3) possibilities of developing solar energy (4). No error (5).

3. With solar electricity (1) in vogue, would it (2) be a matter of surprise (3) if the twenty-first century becomes the age of Third World (4)? No error (5).

4. Some of the tricksters hang around (1) expensive restaurants in the expectation (2) that the people who dine there (3) must have plenty of money with them (4). No error (5).

5. Police have taken measures to assure the safety (1) of foreign visitors who venture into (2) those areas where they are (3) likely to fall prey to crooks (4). No error (5).

One of the words in the following questions is mis-spelt. Find out the mis-spelt word.

6. (a) charade
(b) facade
(c) balad
(d) salad
7. (a) village
(b) garrage
(c) barrage
(d) camouflage
8. (a) comittee
(b) commission
(c) permission
(d) concussion
9. (a) surveillance
(b) obeisance
(c) renaissance
(d) acquiesce
10. (a) reiterate
(b) reprivce

- (c) reticve
(d) reciept

Choose the word/words most appropriate in meaning to the following words in *italics*.

11. *aegis*
(a) protection (b) aid
(c) assistance
(d) arrogance
12. *habitat*
(a) habitual (b) home
(c) natural (d) formal
13. *clout*
(a) bully (b) power
(c) eagerness (d) selfless
14. *overture*
(a) hostile
(b) indifference
(c) deception
(d) friendly offer
15. *pique*
(a) pain (b) injury
(c) wound
(d) annoyance
16. *thaw*
(a) melt (b) throw
(c) suppress (d) express

From the choices given below each word in *italics*, choose the word/words opposite in meaning.

17. *friendly*
(a) opposition (b) enmity
(c) inimical
(d) adversely
18. *infuse*
(a) confuse (b) profuse
(c) defuse (d) refuse
19. *censure*
(a) recommend (b) suspend
(c) reinstate
(d) commend
20. *conceited*
(a) poor
(b) modest
(c) immature
(d) depressed
21. *exceptional*
(a) cheap
(b) commonplace
(c) free
(d) worthless

22. *indolent*

- (a) active
(b) aggressive
(c) offensive
(d) defiant

From the four alternatives given below each idiom, select the one that brings out the meaning of the idiom:

23. *to come a cropper*
(a) to die
(b) to fail
(c) to succeed
(d) to desert
24. *to wash one's hands of*
(a) to refuse to be responsible
(b) to own responsibility
(c) to confess
(d) to run away
25. *to bury the hatchet:*
(a) to bury the dead
(b) to forget
(c) to forgive
(d) to make peace
26. *to cross or pass the Rubicon:*
(a) to take a decisive step forward
(b) to be passive
(c) to retire
(d) to live on past achievements
27. *to burn one's fingers:*
(a) to be killed
(b) to get into unexpected trouble
(c) to be cheated
(d) to decline help
28. *to haul over the coals:*
(a) to praise someone
(b) to reward someone
(c) to censure a man
(d) to punish a man

In the following questions (29 and 30) the sentences (A, B, C and D) are not in their proper sequence. Read them carefully and then arrange them in their natural sequence so that the arrangement makes a meaningful prose passage:

29. 1. A collection of works of art is a collection of culture-symbols,

- and culture-symbols still carry social prestige.
money more effectively than a
- C. for an art collection can represent
- D. It is also a collection of wealth-symbols

6. whole fleet of motor cars.

- (a) ACBD (b) BCDA
(c) ADCB (d) ABDC

30. 1. The frequency with which the facts

- A. statesmen are challenged suggests that the
- B. ideal statesmen—men, who like great poets
- C. in the autobiographies and speeches of
- D. world has not yet begun to produce

6. have the genius of memory and intellect combined

- (a) CBAD (b) DABC
(c) BDAC (d) CADB

Read the following sentences carefully and by selecting the most appropriate word from the choices given below each sentence, fill in the blanks.

31. As the months passed, peculiar

- (a) images (b) dreams
(c) disturbances
(d) things

32. in daily _____ started cropping up,

- (a) affairs (b) dealings
(c) routine (d) life

33. out of the way _____

- (a) problems
(b) impediments
(c) difficulties
(d) obstructions

34. things which should not have occurred in _____ circumstances.

- (a) ordinary (b) normal
(c) natural (d) everyday

35. A queer oppressiveness us.

- (a) surprised (b) effected
(c) affected (d) shocked

36. The _____ thing was that it vanished the moment

- (a) strange
(b) extraordinary
(c) unique
(d) remarkable

37. We went out _____ town

- (a) off (b) of
(c) from (d) into

38. but was waiting for us _____ our return,

- (a) before (b) on
(c) even (d) yet

39. a tangible _____

- (a) event
(b) happening
(c) development
(d) atmosphere

40. One could _____ slice through.

- (a) almost (b) nearly
(c) hardly (d) surely

Read the following passage carefully and choose the best answer to each of the questions given below:

A number of factors have propelled a boom in the sale of consumer goods in rural markets. The benefits of the Green Revolution have augmented the purchasing power of the farmer. Advertising on television, particularly in its colourful version has also given exotic products a live and real appeal. Improved literacy and education have also augmented the desire for consumer goods in the villages. The influx of consumer products is changing the attitudes, outlook and value-systems of the rural consumers. Age-old beliefs and cultural values are vanishing. The feudal caste system is giving way to a class system based on incomes and material possessions. With an increase in his purchasing power and awareness levels, the rural consumer is becoming more discriminating and quality conscious.

41. Indian villages are witnessing a consumer boom due to:

- (a) the benefits of Green Revolution only
(b) advertising on television only
(c) improved literacy and education only
(d) many factors

42. "exotic products" stand for:

- (a) luxury goods
(b) necessities of life
(c) attractive manufactured goods
(d) none of these

43. rural consumerism has led to:

- (a) collapse of age-old beliefs
(b) rational behaviour
(c) a class system based on incomes and material possessions

(d) fast and unnatural life

44. With increased purchasing power, the village consumer has become:

- (a) more intelligent and quality conscious
(b) reckless and extravagant
(c) a victim of spurious goods
(d) conspicuous by his lavish living

45. What does this rural consumer boom indicate?

- (a) gap between the rural and urban India is narrowing
(b) gap between the haves and have-nots is widening
(c) poverty of rural India is becoming a thing of the past
(d) all poor societies are being seduced by the glamour of consumerism

ANSWERS

1. (2) 'projected as' is the correct usage. Other similar expressions can be: known as, judged as etc.
 2. (2) 'who on their' ... should have been used. The use of 'with' is grammatically wrong.
 3. (4) 'The Third World' because the use of definite article 'the' refers to a unique political-economic entity of the world.
 4. (4) 'money on them', which means cash/money they are carrying on their persons.
 5. (1) 'ensure' is the correct verb.
- | | | |
|---------|---------|---------|
| 6. (c) | 7. (b) | 8. (a) |
| 9. (a) | 10. (d) | 11. (a) |
| 12. (b) | 13. (b) | 14. (d) |
| 15. (d) | 16. (a) | 17. (c) |
| 18. (c) | 19. (d) | 20. (b) |
| 21. (b) | 22. (a) | 23. (b) |
| 24. (a) | 25. (d) | 26. (a) |
| 27. (b) | 28. (c) | 29. (c) |
| 30. (d) | 31. (c) | 32. (d) |
| 33. (a) | 34. (b) | 35. (c) |
| 36. (d) | 37. (b) | 38. (b) |
| 39. (d) | 40. (b) | 41. (d) |
| 42. (c) | 43. (c) | 44. (a) |
| | | 45. (d) |

GENERAL AWARENESS

The questions given below were set in Tamil Nadu Public Service Commission examination held on June 24, 1990.

We are grateful to Mr R. Ashok of Madras for sending the question paper to us.

1. The author of Nana is:
 - (a) James Jean
 - (b) Tagore
 - (c) ☒ Emile Zola
 - (d) John Milton
2. Portia is a character in:
 - (a) The Tempest
 - (b) ☒ Merchant of Venice
 - (c) Othello
 - (d) Macbeth
3. VIBGYOR is a word connected to:
 - (a) ☒ light
 - (b) sound
 - (c) electricity
 - (d) magnetism
4. The First Indian to go into space is:
 - (a) Rajesh Kumar
 - (b) Ramesh Sharma
 - (c) Ajay Sharma
 - (d) ☒ Rakesh Sharma
5. A light year is:
 - (a) 1,86,000 miles
 - (b) ☒ the distance travelled by light in an year
 - (c) 1,00,000 miles
 - (d) 1,00,000 kilometres
6. The instrument for measuring earthquake is:
 - (a) ☒ Chronograph
 - (b) ☒ Seismograph
 - (c) Barograph
 - (d) Crescograph
7. For purifying drinking water, we use:
 - (a) ☒ chlorine
 - (b) bromine
 - (c) ☒ sodium

- (d) benzene
8. Gamma rays:
 - (a) ☒ have more penetrating capacity
 - (b) have least penetrating capacity
 - (c) no penetrating capacity
 - (d) useful for nothing
9. The ratio of pure gold in 18 carat gold is:
 - (a) 100%
 - (b) 80%
 - (c) ☒ 75%
 - (d) 60%
10. The 8th term of the series $2 + 4 + 8 + \dots$ is:
 - (a) 246
 - (b) 512
 - (c) 416
 - (d) ☒ 256
11. 1000×0.0823 is equal to:
 - (a) 8230
 - (b) 8.23
 - (c) ☒ 82.3
 - (d) 823
12. The age of a tree can be estimated by:
 - (a) ☒ counting the number of concentric rings
 - (b) counting the nodes of the trunk
 - (c) measuring the girth
 - (d) counting the number of branches
13. Name of the Parliament of Japan is:
 - (a) Senate
 - (b) Majlis
 - (c) ☒ Diet
 - (d) Congress
14. The frontier line between India and Tibet is:
 - (a) Radcliffe Line
 - (b) ☒ McMahon Line
 - (c) 17th Parallel
 - (d) Durand Line
15. Maximum snow in the world

is found in:

- (a) Antarctica
- (b) ☒ Arctic region
- (c) Siberia
- (d) Greenland
16. The probability of getting a head by tossing a uniform coin is:
 - (a) 0.25
 - (b) ☒ 0.5
 - (c) 0.75
 - (d) 1
17. To swim in a sea than in a river is easier because:
 - (a) ☒ the density of sea water is higher than the density of river water
 - (b) the density of river water is higher than the density of sea water
 - (c) sea is bigger than river
 - (d) river flows on land
18. In the year 1989, the French Open Tennis Men's Singles Title was won by:
 - (a) ☒ Michael Chang
 - (b) Ivan Lendl
 - (c) Boris Becker
 - (d) Stefan Edberg
19. The dimension of a Tennis Court (singles) are:
 - (a) 76 feet by 28 feet
 - (b) ☒ 78 feet by 27 feet
 - (c) 76 feet by 36 feet
 - (d) 78 feet by 36 feet
20. Fat is stored in the human body in:
 - (a) muscular tissue
 - (b) connective tissue
 - (c) ☒ adipose tissue
 - (d) epithelial tissue
21. Nitrogen wastes are removed from our body through:
 - (a) breath
 - (b) sweat
 - (c) ☒ motion
 - (d) urine
22. The deficiency of iodine

OBJECTIVE TYPE QUESTIONS

causes:

- (a) goitre
- (b) fever
- (c) cancer
- (d) anaemia

23. Quit India Movement was launched in the year:

- (a) 1936
- (b) 1941
- (c) 1942
- (d) 1947

24. Rock-cut temples of Mahabalipuram were built by:

- (a) Cholas
- (b) Chalukyas
- (c) Rashtrakutas
- (d) Pallavas

25. Who among the following Sultans completed the construction of Qutab Minar?

- (a) Qutbuddin Aibak
- (b) Iltutmish
- (c) Alam Shah
- (d) Ghiyasuddin Tughluq

26. The person who was not associated with the 1857 revolt was:

- (a) Bhagat Singh
- (b) Rani Lakshmi Bai
- (c) Nana Sahib
- (d) Tantya Tope

27. Tiruvalluvar lived at:

- (a) Madurai
- (b) Kanchipuram
- (c) Mylapur
- (d) Poompuhar

28. The Soviet Nobel laureate who died recently was:

- (a) Vorotnikov
- (b) Yuri Gagarin
- (c) Kovalev
- (d) Sakharov

29. Tolkappiyam deals with:

- (a) Mathematics
- (b) Grammar
- (c) History
- (d) Astronomy

30. Currency of Australia is:

- (a) Pound
- (b) Franc
- (c) Dollar
- (d) Schilling

31. In the preparation of bread, we use:

- (a) nitric acid
- (b) sulphuric acid

(c) tartaric acid

(d) phthalic acid

32. Relativity principle was propounded by:

- (a) Newton
- (b) Boyle
- (c) C.V. Raman
- (d) Einstein

33. Who invented nuclear fission?

- (a) Otto Hahn
- (b) Madam Curie
- (c) Alfred Nobel
- (d) Rutherford

34. Mormugoa is a:

- (a) river
- (b) natural harbour
- (c) artificial harbour
- (d) palace

35. Vitamin-A is very much needed for:

- (a) ears
- (b) eyes
- (c) lungs
- (d) heart

36. The oldest Capital of ancient India was:

- (a) Nalanda
- (b) Madura
- (c) Delhi
- (d) Pataliputra

37. F. Banting discovered:

- (a) Neon gas
- (b) Penicillin
- (c) Insulin
- (d) Machine gun

38. The instrument used for measuring the atmospheric pressure is:

- (a) Barometer
- (b) Microscope
- (c) Thermometer
- (d) Crescograph

39. The plan of the Suez Canal was conceived by:

- (a) Tasman
- (b) Ferdinand de Lesseps
- (c) Magellan
- (d) Columbus

40. A medical instrument for tracing the movements of heart is:

- (a) Carburettor
- (b) Cardiograph
- (c) Chronometer
- (d) Barometer

41. Due to cataract, the part of the body affected is:

- (a) leg
- (b) hand
- (c) heart
- (d) eyes

42. Drug that dulls the nervous system is:

- (a) Narcotic
- (b) Germicide
- (c) Antiseptic
- (d) Bicasules

43. The Indian Prime Minister who died outside India was:

- (a) Jawaharlal Nehru
- (b) Lal Bahadur Shastri
- (c) Indira Gandhi
- (d) None of these

44. Shantivan is the Samadhi of:

- (a) Gandhiji
- (b) Rajendra Prasad
- (c) Nehruji
- (d) Rajaji

45. Wall Street is the Stock Exchange Market in:

- (a) Paris
- (b) London
- (c) Washington
- (d) New York

46. Surat is famous for:

- (a) textiles
- (b) cigar
- (c) paper
- (d) ship-building

ANSWERS

1. (c) 2. (b) 3. (a)
4. (d) 5. (b) 6. (b)
7. (a) 8. (a)
9. (c) (In an 18 carat article, only 18 parts in 24 by weight are composed of gold)
10. (d) 11. (c) 12. (a)
13. (c) 14. (b) 15. (b)
16. (b) 17. (a) 18. (a)
19. (b) 20. (c) 21. (d)
22. (a) 23. (c) 24. (d)
25. (b) 26. (a) 27. (c)
28. (d) 29. (b) 30. (c)
31. (c) 32. (d) 33. (a)
34. (b) 35. (a) & (b)
36. (d) 37. (c) 38. (a)
39. (b) 40. (b) 41. (d)
42. (a) 43. (b) 44. (c)
45. (d) 46. (a)

Descriptive Test

In our September issue we published answers to questions set in the Descriptive Paper for the Recruitment of Specialist Officers examination held in June, 1990, and also to two of the four questions set in the Bank Clerks examination held by BSRB, Jaipur. We publish below the answers to the remaining two questions of that paper and the answers to the questions set for the Bank Clerks' examination conducted by BSRB, Trivandrum, on July 15, 1990. We thank Mr K.P. Santosh for sending us the paper.

We would be happy to receive such question papers from our readers.

Q. 1. "Empty vessels make much noise." Bring out the meaning of the proverb with two examples.

Ans. When a person who lacks intelligence and has no brains (that is to say, he is foolish) he generally talks a lot, and loudly, in an attempt to show off and make up by mere words for his intellectual deficiency. Literally, this proverb refers to a vessel which, when empty, makes a rattling sound when it strikes a metallic or other material, or when it falls to the ground. On the other hand, if a vessel is full of some material, liquid or dry, it makes no sound. Similarly, when an individual has good intellect, a high sense of values and knows when it is best not to speak but to remain silent, he will not make noise in any way but would remain a silent spectator of other people's follies. He knows the importance of a proper sense of values.

In actual life we have often noticed that brainless politicians, who have nothing concrete to say on any specific issue, merely talk loudly, raise various worn-out slogans which have lost all relevance. Foolish conduct in public and resort to loud talk reflect lack of good sense and of

knowledge.

Another example is of ignorant, senseless students who make a nuisance of themselves in class or outside; they boast of non-existent achievements and of knowledge they do not have. Intelligent, knowledgeable students, on the other hand, speak when they have something valuable to contribute.

Q. 2. Men should communicate through sign language only. What will be the consequences of that situation?

Ans. It was primitive, uncivilised and uneducated man who conveyed to others whatever thoughts he had, through signs and gestures. If educated or even illiterate persons in the world of today start conveying their thoughts or requirements through signs and manual gestures, they would be laughed at and regarded as imbeciles or on the verge of madness. God has given us the power of speech; even illiterate people can talk to others in their mother tongue. Why should anyone make a fool of himself by behaving as if he is dumb and totally incapable of uttering a word? Only those who have lost their power of speech as a result of a paralytic stroke or other disease, or who cannot even write a word for some reason, fall back on the sign language.

Apart from the ludicrous situations arising when a parent tries to convey his desires or instructions to his wife and children through gestures, there is also the fact that no sign language can be adequate for full expression of thoughts and needs, proper education, recording of history, writing poetry or fiction. Carrying on correspondence with local people or those in other towns would also become impossible. Human progress would stop and there would

be a tragic reversion to the stone age.

Q. 3. Suppose there is no rain on the earth. Give three consequences if such a situation arises.

Ans. 1. If there is no rain, the earth would become a vast desert, with no greenery, no life-giving forests, no crops, no agriculture and hence no foodgrains and other essential agricultural products.

2. Both human and animal life depends upon water; without it we would all die of thirst. In fact, life would become impossible because there would be no water to drink, take bath, wash clothes and utensils. When no washing is possible, there would be heaps of dirt and stink all round. If there is no rain, the birds and animals would perish because of thirst.

3. Since the water in the wells and tanks is all rain water that percolates through the earth or collects in shallow places, the wells would dry up after a time. Food famines are horrible enough; total absence of water would be nothing short of a calamity which would spell death and disaster all round.

4. It is rain that cools down the earth; in its absence the continuously hot sun would literally mean a scorched earth, with no plant, animal or human life anywhere. In fact, the consequences of such a situation cannot be easily imagined. It would end the world.

Q. 4. "Prevention is better than cure." What is your opinion? Substantiate it.

Ans. Every rational person would agree with this statement. There is no doubt that if we make it a point to act in time, take every possible care against illness, accidents or other types of setbacks, we would save ourselves from much physical,

economic and intellectual loss later on. This proverb has special reference to prevention of diseases and illness of various kinds. If all of us take full precautions against diseases, we would not fall ill and then be compelled to seek medical assistance which is very expensive and which also causes considerable physical weakness. Sometimes, illness assumes serious proportions; then it is too late to resort to any remedy or corrective. The proverb "A stitch in time saves nine" carries similar advice. There are stories of battles having been lost for lack of a nail in a horse shoe or timely repair to a gun before a battle commences. Most diseases are preventable through adequate health care; so every sane person should act in time, not ruin his or her health and then seek a doctor's or surgeon's help to survive.

Q. 5. "Television has adversely affected social life." Give two arguments *for* and two *against* this statement.

Ans. Television is admittedly an unmatched medium of entertainment, but it also has certain disadvantages of which the adverse effect on social life is the most regrettable. The Idiot Box keeps the listeners and viewers confined to their drawing-room or bedroom, wherever a TV set is placed. The viewers are almost hypnotised and become so absorbed in the various programmes—music, dance, plays and films—projected on the small screen that they do not like to go out and meet their friends and relations. Many even miss their evening walks and physical exercise. Until TV sets became freely available, people used to go out in the evenings, meet their friends and acquaintances, establish personal contacts, assure abiding friendships. They attended meetings and went to clubs. But now most of the social life is abandoned, so absorbing and irresistible is TV. Visits to friends and social life have all become things of the past. TV is also a medium of instruction and information. The hunger for information has lately be-

come intense and insatiable. TV provides plenty of both and lazy listeners get it all without making any effort.

Q. 6. Suggest three effective steps to check migration of rural youths to cities.

Ans. Generally, rural youth migrate to urban centres in search of remunerative employment; they are lured by the glamour and attractions of city life. The remedies for checking the exodus have therefore to be directed towards these aspects.

1. Gainful and regular employment should be assured to rural youth near their villages so that they do not have to move out to other places to earn their livelihood. It is unemployment that drives youth out of rural areas to cities; this should be remedied. If the anti-poverty programmes are effectively implemented and not merely exist on paper, the trend can be checked.

2. Many of the migrants are landless labourers, frustrated artisans, and untrained people. Effective land reforms so as to ensure an equitable distribution of agricultural land which rural youth can cultivate fruitfully would help. More small-scale and cottage industries should be established and regularly subsidised to check the exodus of youth. Liberal loans should be given to youth for small enterprises which would keep them in the countryside.

3. The living conditions, sanitation, etc., in villages should be improved. Educated or semi-educated youth would not then feel compelled to opt for urban centres in order to live in cleaner surroundings, even if there is congestion. The lack of amenities is another factor that prompts youth to go out in search of greener pastures. Development of the countryside should be expedited to eliminate exploitation and the feelings of all-round backwardness.

ARGUMENTATIVE QUESTIONS....

(Contd. from Page 195)

and professional ability of the person concerned. Caste considerations and political or social commitment should be tabooed for such purposes.

(c) Economic development and environment interact and cannot be treated in isolation. The linkages between the two are so close that the development organisations and the international credit institutions have stressed both environmental protection and poverty reduction as their goals for the 1990s although the two are, sometimes, mutually contradictory. The long-term environmental protection is in direct conflict with the short-term survival strategies of the poor. However both are critical to long-term economic growth.

Schemes of water storage for multi-purpose river valley projects should be looked upon as promoters of environment in the larger sense, says the World Bank. The benefits from big dams which cause displacement of huge mass of population and submerge vast tracts of land affecting

the environment and ecology are of far-reaching significance in terms of increased food production, employment generation, industrialisation, urbanisation and power supply for pumpsets to provide irrigation facilities.

(d) The RBI as the apex Bank of the country is the banker of the Government of India. It transacts the general banking functions of the government and keeps accounts of the government. It maintains currency chests as desired by the government and supplies the chests with notes and coins required for the transactions of the government. It buys and sells Treasury Bills and is responsible for the issue of new loans. It makes ways and means advances and helps the government in deficit financing by advancing loans. It also acts as adviser to the government on a wide range of economic issues e.g. planning, resource mobilisation, monetary policy, price and credit control etc. It is a friend, philosopher and guide of the government.

THE EXAMINER'S GUESS QUESTIONS

Q. Where is the oldest earth station of India located?

Ans. Arvi.

Q. What was the total amount of domestic and external debt outstanding against India as on March 31, 1990?

Ans. Rs 2,38,096 crore domestic debt and Rs 80,132 crore external debt. The amount of interest payment during 1989-90 on domestic and external debts was Rs 16,226 crore and Rs 3,559 crore respectively.

Q. A rare celestial event, that occurs at a gap of nearly 2000 years, was visible all over the world in the wee hours of August 13, 1990. What event was this?

Ans. Venus and Jupiter came in so close conjunction that to a naked eye the two planets were visible as a single glittering object. A similar conjunction of the two planets had occurred on June 17, 2BC which might have been described as the "Star of Bethlehem" at the time of the birth of Christ.

Q. Which decade will be observed as the "Kisan decade"?

Ans. 1990s.

Q. Name the Indian who has been recognised by the Guinness Book of Records as the world's shortest man?

Ans. Gul Mohammed of Delhi. He is 58.15 cms tall and weighs 17 kgs.

Q. What name has been given to bill for granting autonomy to the electronic media?

Ans. Prasar Bharati Bill.

Q. Which country is world's biggest energy consumer?

Ans. USA. Of total world oil consumption in 1989 of 64.7 million barrels per day, the USA consumed 16.4 million.

Q. What is the purpose behind setting up of the National Security Council (NSC)? Who will head NSC?

Ans. National Security Council has been set-up to take "a comprehensive and coordinated view of all matters relating to India's security". It will be headed by the Prime Minister.

Q. Which station is expected to become the highest station of India by April 1991?

Ans. Howrah station. After completion of four more platforms by April 1991 it will be able to cater to 490 trains daily.

The Howrah station was originally built in 1854. In 1905 it was replaced by the existing building.

Q. What is the purpose of the Agricultural and Rural Debt Relief Scheme, 1990?

Ans. The scheme has been formulated for providing debt relief upto Rs 10,000 to farmers, landless cultivators, artisans and weavers by public sector banks and regional rural banks.

Q. What are the provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child which came into force as an international law on September 2, 1990?

Ans. It is a comprehensive Human Rights Convention drafted in full partnership between developing and developed nations and emerged from the UN General Assembly as the international community's first universal and binding policy statement on children's rights.

Nations which ratify the document effectively endorse their children's right, among other things to express opinions in matters which affect their well being and freedom of thought, conscience and religion, subject to appropriate parental guidance and national law.

The Convention also obliges nations to adopt measures to: ensure that every child is registered immediately after birth and has the right to a name, a nationality, and knowledge of who his or her parents are. The Convention will also protect the Rights of the Child to the care of its natural parents. Take legislative, social, educational and other steps to protect children from all forms of physical or

mental violence, neglect or maltreatment while in the care of parents, legal guardians or anyone else responsible for their well-being.

Other obligations include protection of children from the use of narcotic and psychotropic drugs. Safeguarding children from sexual exploitation and abuse.

Action to prevent the abduction and sale of children in any form.

Recognise the right of children to leisure, play, and participation in cultural and artistic activities.

Recognise that every child has the inherent right to life, and ensure the survival and development of the child to the extent possible.

Ensure that children have access to information that is consistent with their well-being and which respects their cultural background.

Recognise the primary responsibility of both parents for the child's upbringing, and support them accordingly.

Q. What does the Constitution (67th Amendment) Bill seek to achieve?

Ans. It seeks to form a National Judicial Commission which will be responsible for the appointment of judges to the Supreme Court and High Courts.

Q. Name oil field which is the major point of dispute between Iraq and Kuwait and ultimately led to the invasion of Kuwait by Iraq?

Ans. Rumaila oil field. It is one of the world's largest oil reservoirs. The bulk of the 80 km-long oil field lies under Iraq. Much of the oil produced from Rumaila in the last decade, was pumped by Kuwait.

Just as a pump at the edge of a lake can pull water from the entire lake, Kuwait's wells could, in theory, pump out oil from the entire Rumaila pool. In Iraq's view Kuwait had been stealing its oil.

SPORTS

11TH ASIAN GAMES

Torch Relay

Chinese Communist Party General Secretary Jiang Zemin ignited the main torch at the sprawling Tiananmen Square in Beijing on August 22.

Guns boomed, 60,000 pigeons were let loose, specially erected fountains spewed water and a military band played the Asiad theme song before a large gathering.

Sports Minister Mu Shaozu lit three more torches and handed them to badminton ace Yang Yang, gymnast Li Chunyang and woman shotputter Huang Zhihong, entrusting the main torch to star woman diver Xu Yanmei. They turned to face four directions, north, south, east and west before jogging away. It is supposed to be world's biggest ever exercise; some 100 million people or one out of every 11 Chinese people are to take in carrying the torches back across some 300,000 km to Beijing for the main official ignition of the Games flame on Sep 22.

Mascot: Pan Pan, a lovely giant gainda, is the Mascot of the Games. Like a cute little boy, he has a red ribbon tied round his waist, which symbolises good luck and he holds in one of his hands a gold medal with the picture of Tiananmen Gate Tower on it. With open arms and a smiling face, he welcomes all the guests to the Games.

The 11th Asian Games are slated for September 22 to October 7 and will entail an expenditure of 532 million dollars.

GOODWILL GAMES

Russians at Top

The 17th sporting extravaganza, which ended at Seattle (Washington) on August 7, was a triumph for Soviet Union which captured 176 medals as against USA's 146. The other countries to reach double figures were: East Germany (40), Bulgaria (22), China (15), West

Germany (15), Japan (15), Cuba (13) and Canada (11). The total tally of the remaining participant countries did not exceed the figure of eight. More than 2,500 athletes from over 50 countries participated in 21 Goodwill Games/sports.

The Goodwill Games were born after straight boycotted Olympics 1980 in Moscow and 1984 in Los Angeles. Since 1976 in Montreal, the two super powers had not met in an all-out sport extravaganza until 1988 Seoul Olympics.

The next Goodwill Games will be held at The Hague (Holland) in 1993.

ATHLETICS

Escorts Masters Meet

Three national records were created in the Escorts Masters athletics meet at New Delhi on August 10. Hurdler Bhuwan Singh erased K.S. Balasubramani's 8-year-old 400 metres hurdle national record, clocking 51.66 secs. S.B. Mishra added one metre to his existing national javelin throw record, measuring 72.08 metres. His previous best was 71.08. N. Annavi climbed 2.16 metres to rewrite his 3-year-old national high jump record.

Zenia Ayrton produced the year's best by an Indian woman winning 100 metres. She clocked 11.87 secs to win the gold, leaving behind Ashwani Nachappa who clocked 11.98 secs.

Manila Marathon

India's national champion Sunita Godara won the 20 km international marathon at Manila on August 12. She clocked 1:15:22 and in the process erased local champion Aresenia Sagaray's record which stood at 1:17:48.

DU Retain Trophy

Delhi University were declared winners of the Dr B.L. Gupta Trophy in the Inter-Varsity sport competitions, for the third successive year, according to an official announcement in New Delhi on August 11.

Guru Nanak Dev University and Panjab University finished second and third respectively.

Delhi University also won a cash reward of Rs 1,40,000 for winning positions in selective disciplines.

Italian Meet

American sprinter Michael Johnson clocked the second fastest time of the year for the 200 metres at Sestriere (Italy) on August 10 with a timing of 19.88 secs at an international athletics meet. He is already the fastest man in the world this year when he covered the same distance in Britain with a timing of 19.85 secs.

BASKETBALL

World Championship

Yugoslavia beat the Soviet Union 92-75 to win the men's world basketball championship at Buenos Aires on August 19. Defending champions United States finished third by defeating Puerto Rico 107-105.

BILLIARDS

World Championship

Calcutta's Manoj Kothari, who got his entry in the last minute, surprised the followers of the Game when he became the new champion, disposing of top seed Ashok Shandilya by a convincing margin of 468 points in the final of the Gold Flake World billiards championships at Bangalore on August 25.

CRICKET

England-India Test Series

Second Test Match: An heroic century (110 not-out) by teenager Sachin Tendulkar and his 160-run seventh wicket stand with Manoj Prabhakar (67 not-out) enabled India draw the second cricket Test against England at Manchester on August 14. Tendulkar also became the second youngest batsman in Test history to hit a century in 196 minutes, facing 117 deliveries

with 14 hits to the boundary.

Score:

England: 519 and 320 for four declared.

India: 432 and 343 for six declared.

Third Test Match: In reply to India's mammoth first innings total of 606 for nine declared, England were all out for 340 and were made to follow-on. The match was called off when England declared their second innings at 477 for four.

The highlight of this match was Shastri's career best of 187 and Kapil Dev's superb 110, containing 16 boundaries.

England, which had won the first test match, were declared winners of the series 1-0.

CYCLING

New Records

Vladimir Adamashvili and Galina Yenyukhina of the Soviet Union both broke world records in men's and women's 1,000-metre sprint at the Soviet cycling championships in Moscow on August 17.

Adamashvili finished the final 200 metres in 10.000 secs, the previous record being 10.123 secs. Yenyukhina's timing was 11.164, improving the previous record by .006 secs.

FOOTBALL

Dynasty Cup

South Korea defeated China to win the inaugural Dynasty Cup football tournament, organised by the Asian Football Confederation, at Beijing on August 17. North Korea came third and Japan fourth.

KABADDI

Punjab Win Title

Holders Punjab defeated last year's runner-up Haryana 47-40 to clinch the title in the 8th National Circle Kabaddi Championship at Rewari on August 10.

MOUNTAINEERING

Kangri Peak Scaled

The first-ever Indo-Taiwanese mountaineering expedition team,

comprising of seven Taiwanese and eight Indians, successfully scaled the 7,672 metres Saser Kangri-I peak, under the leadership of veteran climber Hukum Singh, who is also Additional DIG of Indo-Tibetan Border Police, according to a press release on August 14.

SHOOTING

New World Record

Harold Stenvang (Norway) shot a perfect 600 points in the 800-metre free rifle competition at the 45th World Shooting Championships, breaking the world record by one point, at Moscow on August 16.

SWIMMING

Team Title

Central Reserve Police won the 30th All India Police Swimming Championships for the 14th consecutive time when they logged 262 points on the concluding day at New Delhi on August 14.

TABLE TENNIS

Southern Ranking Championship

Railway's Bona Thomas John won the men's singles title beating S. Raman (Petroleum Sports Control Board) 18-21, 22-20, 21-19, 22-20 in a closely contested final of the South Zone All-India Ranking Table Tennis Championships at Bangalore on August 9. Women's title was won by Maharashtra's Sejal who defeated Bengal's Montu Ghosh 23-21, 16-21, 21-15, 21-23, 21-19—in an all-Railway final.

TENNIS

US Open Championships

Men's singles: Pete Sampras, rising from the ranks of the unknown in a few short days, became the youngest man ever to capture the U.S. Open Championship on Sept 9, with a straight sets victory over Andre Agassi, 6-4, 6-3, 6-2.

Sampras, who is 19 years and 28 days old, also became the first American to capture the US Open since John McEnroe in 1984.

Pete Sampras is the youngest man ever to win the national championships. Oliver S. Cambell was 19 years, 6

months, 9 days when he won the title in 1890.

Women's singles: Gabriela Sabatini, of Argentina, always the grace challenger to Steffi Graf, defeated the top-seeded West German 6-2, 7-6, 7-4 to win the women's title on Sept 8.

It was Sabatini's first grand slam title and prevented Graf from winning her third consecutive crown.

Sabatini's victory came in her second grand slam final appearance she lost to Graf at the U.S. Open two years ago. And she became the first South American to win the women's title since Maria Bueno of Brazil in 1966.

Graf's 50th Title

Top-ranked Steffi Graf (W. Germany) won her 50th career title with a 6-3, 6-2 victory over Manuela Maleeva (Switzerland) in the Women's Tennis Classic at San Diego on August 12. A week earlier, she beat Katerina (Bulgaria) 6-1, 6-7, 8-6, 6-3 in the final of the Canadian Open Women's tennis tournament at Montreal. She also beat Gennifer (US) 6-3, 5-7, 6-4 in the final of the 160,000-dollar Women Tennis Classic at Mahwah on August 27.

Virginia Slims Tournament

Teenager Yugoslav Monica Seles beat Martina Navratilova (USA) in the Virginia Slims women's tennis tournament at Los Angeles on August 20, with a score of 6-4, 3-6, 7-6 and pocketed 70,000 dollars. This was her second consecutive win over world's No. 2 Navratilova.

WCT Tournament

Ivan Lendl (Czech) took advantage of ten double faults by Aaron Krickstein (USA) to beat him 6-4, 6-7, 6-4 in the final of the \$ 350,000 WCT Tournament of Champions at Forest Hills on August 27.

VOLLEYBALL

11th World Championships

The Soviet Union upset defending champion China in a dramatic four-set finale to the 11th World Women's Volleyball Championship held at Beijing on September 2. The score: 15-13, 6-15, 15-8, 16-14.

The US team finished in third place, shocking the World Cup Champions Cuba 11-15, 15-13, 15-9, 15-6.

Current General Knowledge

ABBREVIATIONS

ARDR: Agricultural and Rural Debt Relief.

BAGOC: Beijing Asian Games Organising Committee.

JWG: Joint Working Group.

NSC: National Security Council.

OBC: Other Backward Communities.

SRV: Submarine Rescue Vessel.

STEP: Science and Technology Entrepreneurship Park.

AWARDS

Hari Om Ashram awards, 1990

Dr I.P. Abrol, Deputy Director General (soil, agronomy and agro-forestry), Indian Council of Agricultural Research, Chandigarh along with Dr J.S. Sharma, Dr Gurbachan Singh and Dr H.S. Gill have been given the award for their outstanding work in agro-forestry.

Their research has led to the development of agro-techniques for the re-vegetation of vast areas of salt-affected soils in the Indo-Gangetic plains.

Rafi Ahmed Kidwai award, 1988 and 1989

Dr S. Singh, principal scientist of National Dairy Research Institute and two of his associates, Dr S.K. Kanawajia and Dr S. Sachdeva have been given the Rafi Ahmed Kidwai award for 1988 and 1989 in recognition of their meritorious research work.

The award is one of the most prestigious awards to be instituted by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research.

UNESCO literacy award, 1990

The Kerala Shashtra Sahitya Parishad (KSSP) has won the 1990 UNESCO award for literacy for making Ernakulam the first fully literate district of India. Since the in-

ception of the award, over twenty years ago, this is the fifth time that the award has been won by India.

The award includes a cash prize of \$10,000 and a gold medal.

DEFENCE

Akash test launch successful

India's most modern multi-target surface-to-air missile, *Akash*, was successfully test-launched on August 14, 1990 from the interim test range at Chandipur-on-Sea, on the northern coast of Orissa.

The launching proved the working of the booster system of *Akash*. Four more trials are scheduled in 1990. The missile is likely to be deployed in 1993.

Akash is the fifth missile to be designed in India. The other four are *Prithvi*, *Trishul*, *Agni* and *Nag*. While *Prithvi* is a short-range surface-to-surface missile, *Trishul* is a multi-role, quick reaction, short range, surface-to-air missile and *Agni* is an intermediate-range surface-to-surface missile.

Jaguar's strike capability enhanced

A new navigation and attack system fitted aboard the Jaguar deep penetration strike aircraft of the Indian Air Force has enhanced its weapon aiming capability three fold.

The third generation state of the art inertial navigation and attack system (INAS) affords the aircraft great navigational accuracy and weapon delivery capability. The system has been integrated by the Indian Air Force engineers.

Christened *Shamsher*, Jaguar is today the spearhead of IAF. It equips IAF's deep penetration strike force, a task which represents the ability to reach targets 650 km away, flying at low altitude with a reasonable weapons load.

The Jaguar can carry a wide

range of weapons with a load of upto 3,600 kg. It has nuclear bomb delivery capability.

PROJECTS

Kandla-Bhatinda oil pipeline okayed

The government has approved the proposal of Indian Oil Corporation (IOC) for laying a 1330 km-long petroleum products pipeline between Kandla in Gujarat and Bhatinda in Punjab.

The proposed pipeline would enable uninterrupted supply of petroleum products to the north-west and Koyali-Kandla-Okha regions.

The project will be completed by May 1993 and is estimated to cost Rs 917.55 crore. It will benefit the States of Jammu & Kashmir, Punjab, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Rajasthan, Western UP and New Delhi.

India makes supercomputer prototype

India has successfully developed the prototype of its first indigenous, commercial super-computer, based on parallel processing technology. It is called PARAM and has been developed by the scientists at the Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (C-DAC).

With this India becomes the sixth country in the world to produce super-computers. USA and Japan are already commercially producing them; West Germany and UK have produced prototype and Canada is about to do so.

With 64 processing nodes, the machine can perform at a speed of 100 million floating point operations per second (MFLOPS).

While India had already developed two supercomputers, but these were meant for specific applications. These two supercomputers are FLOSOLVER, designed by the National Aeronautical

Laboratory, Bangalore and ANU-RAG, developed by the Defence Research and Development Organisation.

PARAM has been tested for 23 different applications.

Supercomputers have today become a strategic resource. A nation's ability to carry out frontier research and technology development largely depends upon the high performance computing supercomputers. Keeping in view the importance of developing the technology C-DAC was set-up on March 17, 1988 to develop supercomputers.

Supercomputing is now recognised as a third mode of scientific investigation, complementing the two well-established modes of research—theory and experimentation. It has already provided insight into natural phenomenon, replaced costly experimentation by simulation, and given solutions to grand challenges of science and technology.

Some of the key applications, among the 23 identified for PARAM, so far, are: airtimage processing, remote sensing, computational fluid dynamics, finite element methods, oil reservoir modelling, seismic data processing, molecular modelling, signal processing, circuit simulation, speech recognition and scientific visualisation.

RESEARCH

Synthetic oil makes sense now

As the world braces itself for a oil crisis due to invasion of Kuwait by Iraq, scientists at Texas AM University, USA are hoping they will get the chance to research documents, seized after the fall of Nazi Germany, in search of the forgotten secret of cheap synthetic petroleum.

The idea has gained ground, as many in USA feel that it is time it stopped its dependence on West Asian oil, which costs USA billions of dollars, inclusive of costs in military build-up and foreign aid it gives annually to Israel, Egypt and Pakistan.

All the documents relate to the 25 plants that produced synthetic oil in Germany between 1936 and 1945 pumping 90 per cent of aviation fuel and 68 per cent of other petroleum

requirements of the military.

The scientists have been able to understand the process by which natural carbon deposits such as coal can be transformed into synthetic petroleum derivatives. The researchers are trying to develop a technology to do it cheaply.

Discovery of a cheap method to make oil out of coal will be of great advantage to India which has huge coal reserves.

Huge shale deposits in North East India: Oil India Ltd has discovered huge shale formatives in North-East India which could yield 70 billion tonnes of recoverable oil. This is 100 times more than the proven oil reserves today. Extraction of this oil could make India a big oil exporter.

Shale oil is expensive. It involves mining the shale and backing it to release the oil. The cost of extraction can be as high as \$ 35 a barrel. However, if the Gulf crisis keeps world oil prices high, it will be for the good of the Indian economy if India produces it even at a cost significantly higher than the world price.

Shale oil is already being used in USSR which produces 30 million tonnes of shale oil a year. China, USA and Australia also have plants to produce shale oil.

SPACE RESEARCH

INSAT-1B to outlive 7-year life span

The Indian space programme touched yet another landmark with the prestigious INSAT-1B satellite completing its designed life span of seven years on August 30, 1990.

INSAT-1B, launched by the US space shuttle on August 30, 1983 was the lone survivor of the INSAT system until INSAT-1D went up on June 12 this year to give it company.

Ageing INSAT-1B is still functioning well and "fully available".

Though it was originally intended to be an on-orbit spare for INSAT-1A, INSAT-1B had to function as the main satellite with the collapse of its predecessor in 1982 and successor, INSAT-1C in 1988.

Ever since it marked its niche in

space at 74 degree East longitude, INSAT-1B has turned out to be a workhorse setting in motion a silent revolution in the core sectors of the economy.

When INSAT-1B went up many wondered whether it would work as its predecessor had met with premature death. But since its operationalisation in October 1983, the satellite has been the harbinger in the fields of telecommunication, nationwide radio and television broadcasting and agriculture and allied services.

Whether it was a timely warning to fishermen along Andhra Pradesh-Tamil Nadu coast on a disastrous cyclone at their doorstep or teaching science through TV to a high school student in a remote area, the invisible hand of INSAT-1B was at work.

From its parking slot, INSAT-1B has been on for seven years now except for a brief loss of earth lock resulting in temporary disruption of its services for about 36 hours in August 1984.

In the field of telecommunications, INSAT-1B is supporting more than 4,000 two-way telephone circuits through 76 earth stations.

ISRO tied to German satellite

Under a commercial contract between German Space Operations Centre (GSOC) and ISRO Telemetry, Tracking and Command Network (ISTRAC), the satellite tracking station at Peenya, Bangalore, is providing support for transfer-orbit operations of Eutelsat mission.

Eutelsat was launched by Ariane-4 launcher from Kourou, French Guyana on 31st August, 1990. Eutelsat is a regional public telecommunication, satellite system to provide telecommunication and telephone services in Europe. The spacecraft is functioning normally.

Istrac at Bangalore operates a network of ground stations at Bangalore, Lucknow, Shar, Trivandrum, Car Nicobar and Mauritius. It is equipped with state-of-art systems, to provide Tracking Telemetry and Command (TTC) support for all ISRO's launch vehicles and satellites.

Currently, Istrac is carrying out satellite control operations of IRS-1A, the first Indian operational remote sensing satellite launched in March 1988, which has been providing vital remote sensing services to the country for the last 29 months.

At the request of German Space Operations Centre, Istrac at Bangalore acquired signals from Eutelsat 25 minutes after the launch of the satellite. Since then, Istrac has been providing the required information on Eutelsat on a continuous basis.

Hubble brings a galaxy alive

Images sent back to earth by the troubled U.S. Hubble space telescope have transformed what was thought to be a "rather boring" galaxy into an important find.

The 1.5 billion dollar telescope's wide-field camera captured an image of the galaxy, known as NGC 7457, despite being handicapped by an imperfectly machined mirror on board.

Astronomers were surprised to find that the galaxy, which lies around 40 million light years from earth, was the second most dense they had ever encountered, giving rise to speculation that it may contain a mysterious black hole.

SUMMIT

World summit on children

On September 29-30, 1990 UNICEF, the United Nations Children's Education Fund, is organising a world summit at the UN headquarters to attract the attention of world's leaders on the problems of children. Heads of State of 60 countries agreed to participate. The aim of the summit is to discuss ways of improving the lot of millions of children whose lives are threatened by poverty, disease or malnutrition.

The leaders will be urged to set goals for immunising 80 per cent of all children, reducing the number of children who die, before age five, by one-third and for providing safe drinking water for every child. The leaders will also be asked to commit themselves to eradication of polio and reduction of measles by 90 per

cent over the decade.

UN

160th member

The UN Security Council has unanimously endorsed Liechtenstein's application to become the 160th member of the UN.

Liechtenstein has a population of less than 30,000 and is only 161 sq km in area. It is a wealthy State with major banks and a per capita income of about \$ 15,000.

In 1989 Namibia had become the 160th member of the world body, but North and South Yemen merged leaving the net membership at 159.

MISCELLANY

A big STEP for entrepreneurs

The Indian Institute of Technology, Kharagpur, is sponsoring the Science and Technology Entrepreneurship Park (STEP) to help enterprising individuals become successful manufacturers of high-tech products and processes.

The entrepreneurship park is located on a 52-hectare estate at Gopali, three km south of the IIT.

STEP would act as a catalysing interface between the sophisticated research laboratories of the sponsoring institutions and governmental and financial agencies on one side, and potential entrepreneurship on the other.

The IIT is now building the nursery sheds with ample infrastructural facilities of water, electricity, communication and administrative work for the park. Eight entrepreneurs have already joined the STEP and have been provided with temporary sheds and offices.

Anyone having a background in science and technology and possessing the drive and ambition, can join the park and translate his ideas and fulfil his ambitions by promoting new technologies.

The established industrial houses are also welcome to try out new ideas on pilot-project scale with all relevant expertise at STEP.

Any entrepreneur wanting to develop a new product or process at the STEP would get expertise and

latest information from research groups at the IIT.

The IIT would also impart technical advice for preparing project proposals, feasibility reports, prototype design and proposals seeking financial assistance and loans from financial institutions.

Overpopulation threatens environs

Overpopulation is becoming a growing factor in the impoverishment and environment deterioration of the developing world.

Rapid population growth in Africa, Asia and Latin America is crowding out valuable forests and grasslands and polluting waters that are needed for fisheries.

The analysis issued by the non-profit Population Crisis Committee (PCC) said 80 per cent of the world's remaining tropical forests were concentrated in nine countries with skyrocketing populations. Such forests act as the world's lungs, absorbing carbon dioxide and other harmful pollutants. The farming and firewood needs of many countries have compelled them to cut such forests.

As Third World nations develop economically, they are likely to generate more pollution, adding to a global problem already darkened by the environmental problems of industrialised nations.

In the Himalayan region for example, watersheds have been damaged and flooding is thus more frequent and severe. Thousands of Bangladeshis crammed along low-lying estuaries have been killed and uprooted in recent years, because of flooding.

And many experts believe the drought that caused the deaths of an estimated one million Africans between 1984 and 1985 were aggravated by overgrazing, overcropping and deforestation.

Of the many factors involved in economic and environmental decline, population stabilisation is the one thing that has an easy inexpensive solution, the survey concludes. And urgent steps should be taken to control the population growth especially in the third world countries.

Improve Your Word Power

1. **afoot:** (a) admiring (b) asking (c) being replaced (d) progressing.
2. **berate:** (a) commend (b) recommend (c) suspend (d) scold.
3. **crass:** (a) intelligent (b) insensitive (c) smart (d) harsh.
4. **dour:** (a) tasteless (b) sick (c) gloomy (d) colourful.
5. **exegesis:** (a) depression (b) concession (c) explanation (d) rotation.
6. **flat:** (a) order (b) request (c) challenge (d) apology.
7. **gyp:** (a) punish (b) reward (c) promote (d) banish.
8. **heckle:** (a) encourage (b) discourage (c) interrupt (d) cheer.
9. **impervious:** (a) not influenced (b) arrogant (c) selfish (d) deadly.
10. **kudos:** (a) disgrace (b) honour (c) insult (d) signature.

11. **lounge (n):** (a) dining room (b) social club (c) public park (d) waiting room.
12. **nifty:** (a) clever (b) dull (c) slow (d) fast.
13. **obviate:** (a) remove (b) destroy (c) disturb (d) kill.
14. **paradigm:** (a) pattern (b) speech (c) advice (d) address.
15. **renege:** (a) disappoint (b) fail to keep word (c) betray (d) deceive.
16. **somnolence:** (a) indifference (b) diffidence (c) tolerance (d) drowsiness.
17. **tour de force:** (a) turning point (b) decisive step (c) crushing defeat (d) outstanding performance.
18. **vestige:** (a) colour (b) trace (c) contour (d) curve.
19. **wallow:** (a) indulge oneself (b) abstain from (c) renounce (d) surrender.
20. **zillion:** (a) zig-zag (b) ambush (c) indefinite number (d) aimless pursuit.

ANSWERS

1. **afoot:** (d) progressing, being prepared.
-There is a secret scheme *afoot* to put a memorial through the public park.
2. **berate:** (d) scold sharp.
-Cynics and sceptics are in the habit of *berating* all innovations.
3. **crass:** (b) insensitive, very stupid.
-Monarchy, the world over, has seen and suffered at the hands of *crass* rulers and their spineless courtiers.
4. **dour:** (c) gloomy, joyless.
-After the tumultuous and fiery speeches in the meeting, a *dour* silence descended on the stage.
5. **exegesis:** (c) explanation, interpretation.
-A T.V. serial cannot be a profound *exegesis* of an ancient work or a great epic.
6. **flat:** (a) order, decree.
-No government worth its salt can hope to hold the price line by issuing *flat* and homilies only.
7. **gyp:** (a) punish, cause pain.
-Indian consumer, by and large, has been *gypped* by someone or the other down the sellers' line.
8. **heckle:** (c) interrupt, harass.
-Many great speakers have been *heckled* and harassed in their maiden attempt by the hostile audience.
9. **impervious:** (a) not influenced, not affected.
-No government can stay in power for long if it becomes *impervious* to the people's problems.
10. **kudos:** (b) honour, glory.
-Kudos belongs to those who catch the time to launch a new idea and turn it to their advantage.
11. **lounge (n):** (a) waiting room, dining room.
-Due to the introduction of *lounge* seats, passengers of the train

- passengers were seen rushing towards the *lounge*.
12. **nifty:** (a) clever, skilful.
-Football is a game of *nifty* foot-work and a complete control over the moving ball.
13. **obviate:** (a) remove, get rid of.
-In order to *obviate* traffic jams during the Asiad (1982), a number of fly-overs were constructed between Delhi and New Delhi.
14. **paradigm:** (a) pattern, model.
-Under the leadership of Mahatma Gandhi, moderates in the Congress party practised the *paradigm* of truth and non-violence.
15. **renege:** (b) fail to keep promise or word.
-The new economic policies of East European countries amount to *reneging* on their earlier commitments.
16. **somnolence:** (d) drowsiness, sleepiness.
-During the last ten years, the family planning programme slipped into a state of *somnolence* due to deficiencies in plan and policy strategies.
17. **tour de force:** (d) outstanding performance or achievement.
-The architectural splendours of the Taj Mahal was an exultant *tour de force* of architecture and contrivances of voluptuous lines, textures and intricate forms.
18. **vestige:** (b) trace, mark.
-With the implementation of privatisation, the last *vestige* of imperialism in the economy has disappeared.
19. **wallow:** (a) indulge oneself in pleasure.
-The king of the *wallow* in his pleasures in his palace, instead of trying to improve the lot of his subjects.
20. **zillion:** (c) indefinite number.
-The king of the *zillion* things in his palace, instead of trying to improve the lot of his subjects.

Appointments Etc.

Appointed; Elected Etc

Punsalmaagiyn Ochirbat. The reformist communist, he has been re-elected as President by the Mongolian Parliament following the first free election in the land-locked Asian State.

Mike Moore: Foreign Minister of New Zealand, he has been appointed Prime Minister of the country following resignation of Mr Geoffrey Palmer.

N.N. Jha: He has been appointed India's High Commissioner to Sri Lanka.

Mohammed Hamid Ansari: India's Ambassador in Kabul, has been appointed envoy to Iran.

Surendra Kumar: Counsellor in the high commission in London, has been appointed ambassador to Mozambique.

Air Marshal S.S. Ramdas: of the Indian Air Force, has been appointed Chairman-cum-Managing Director of Indian Airlines.

Distinguished Visitors

Dr Rasheed Al Ameer: Kuwait's oil minister and the Emir's special envoy.

Qi Huai Yuan: Vice-foreign minis-

ter of China.

Dr Najibullah: President of Afghanistan.

Raul S. Mangalapur: Foreign Minister of the Philippines.

Jean Lecanuet: Special envoy of the French President.

Died

Gopal Singh: Former Governor of Goa and Nagaland. He was 73.

Naoroji P. Godrej: the veteran industrialist, who pioneered manufacture of the country's first indigenous typewriters and machine tools.

Mr Godrej, managing director of the Godrej, and Boyce Manufacturing Company Ltd and director of "Godrej Soaps", was 73.

Kalamandalam Krishnan Nair: One of the greatest contemporary exponents of Kathakali. He was 77.

Pandit Shri Narayan: A veteran scholar and journalist. He was 97.

B.F. Skinner: one of the century's leading psychologists, who believed human behaviour could be engineered to build a better world. He was 86.

Western powers who have assembled a naval armada in the Gulf, to use measures necessary to enforce an economic embargo on Iraq and Kuwait.

28—The Gulf crisis moves further away from a peaceful solution with Iraq declaring Kuwait as its 19th province.

30—Anti-reservation stir turns violent in several States claiming two lives in Delhi and Orissa and leaving score injured.

—The Lok Sabha unanimously passes the historic Prasar Bharati Bill, granting autonomy to Akashwani and Doordarshan.

31—Treaty on German unity signed.

SEPTEMBER

1—India and China agree on a mechanism under which to maintain peace in the border areas.

5—The Rajya Sabha passes the Prasar Bharati Bill.

6—Himachal Pradesh government decides not to implement the Mandal Commission recommendations.

7—The Sikkim chief minister, Mr Nar Bahadur Bhandari, rejects the Mandal Commission report.

8—As many as 1500 pro-reservationists arrested in Patna.

—S.R. Bommai, Janta Dal President, warns of "bloodshed and revolution" if the Mandal commission recommendations on reservations were not implemented.

—Iraqi President Saddam Hussein asks super powers to keep off Gulf crisis.

9—Big-2 Super Powers summit held at Helsinki (capital of Finland) to find a solution to Gulf crisis.

—Army out in a number of towns in Himachal Pradesh to control anti-reservationists agitation.

10—Samuel Doe, President of Liberia, killed by rebel forces and rival rebel leader Prince Johnson took over reins of the country.

—Iran and Iraq agree to re-open their embassies in a move towards normalisation of relations and removing their traditional rivalries.

—Pete Sampras, 19, becomes the youngest winner of the US open championship.

11—30 J-K militants die in bus blast during encounter.

EVENTS

AUGUST

9—Chemical war by Iraq feared.

11—Egypt, Syria and Morocco agree to send troops to assist Saudi Arabia.

12—Violence continue unabated in Bihar for the fifth day in the wake of the announcement made by Prime Minister V.P. Singh to provide 27 per cent job reservation to the backward classes in accordance with the recommendations of the Mandal Commission.

—Tunisia, Jordan and Iran demand American pull-out from Saudi Arabia.

14—US increases military power in Saudi Arabia.

17—Iran and Iraq begin exchanging the prisoners of war.

—American President Bush orders

total naval blockade of Iraq.

18—Iraq threatens to hold westerners as hostages.

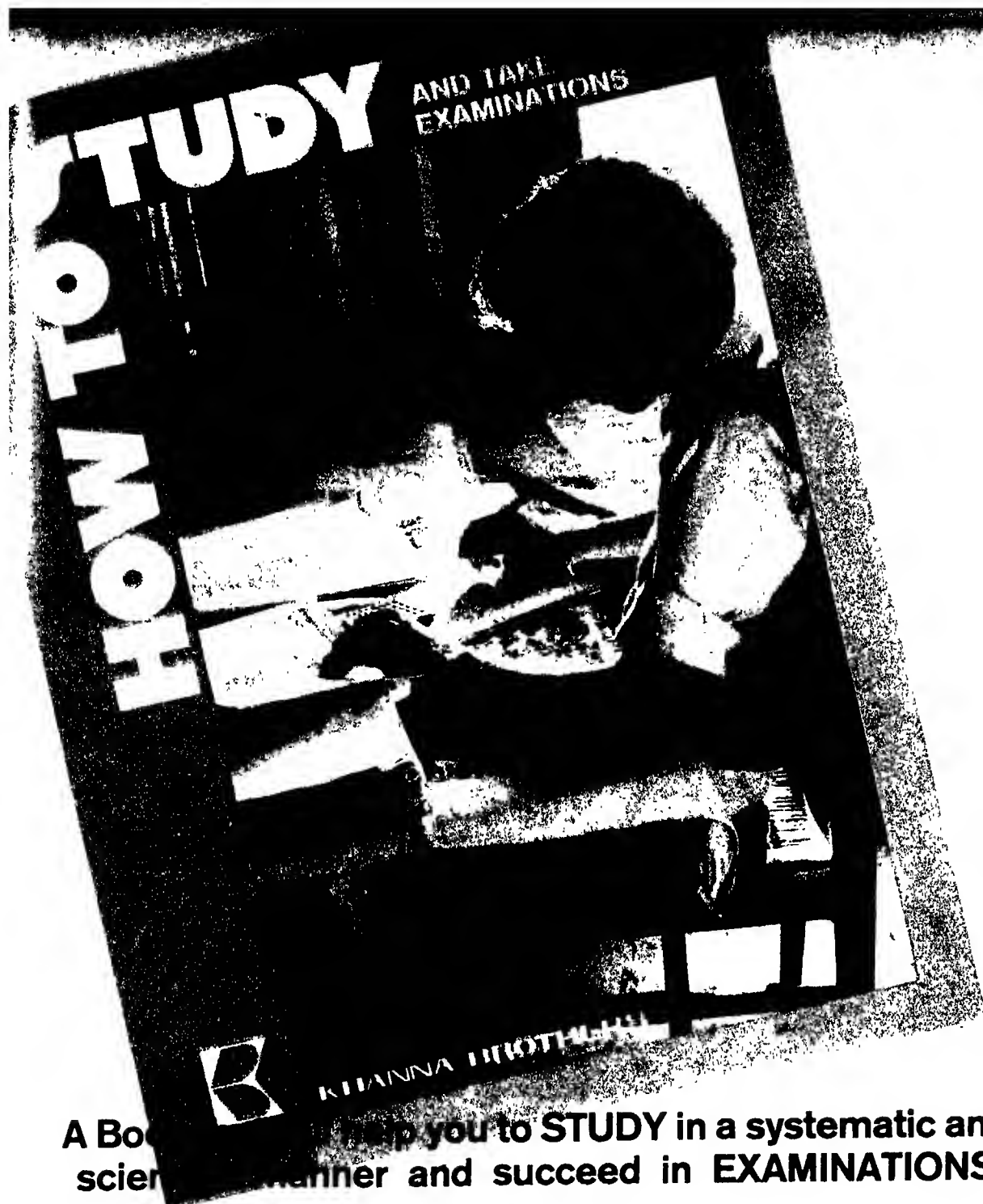
21—The United States rejects an Iraqi offer of direct talks for a diplomatic settlement of the Gulf crisis.

22—The Sri Lankan air force begin a massive air strike over the Jaffna peninsula.

—A Russian-made Petya class warship "INS Andaman" of the Indian Navy sink along with 14 naval personnel including 3 officers, and its armament including missiles, about 150 nautical miles off the Vishakapatnam coast.

24—Iraqi troops surround several Western Embassies in Kuwait.

25—The UN Security Council allows the United States and other



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A LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

Gems of Society

Dear Reader,

To say that gems, like several other varieties of diamonds, are precious is a truism. But far more precious than these rare shining pieces of stone found underground are the country's youth, the nation-builders of tomorrow and the hopes of the future, whatever the plight of the world. Many such gems of purity, integrity, courage, honesty and sensitive boys and girls were lost for ever eternally through immolation. The riots in Delhi and other parts of North India. Who ever thought that valuable lives would be wasted by turning them into human torches during fits of excessive heat, as a result of their protests against the policy of reservations? They were swayed by emotions, anger and frustration. Fiery speeches and actions costed precious lives the country.

Many of our readers, together with countless other youth and their parents, have communications to us expressed deep anguish at the senselessness. We fully share this grief and, like them, we too are overpowered by the agonizing thought whether anything of itself really promotes any cause. *Democracy* is the only answer. The country has lost its assets during the prolonged disturbances; the loss is irremediable. Youth everywhere wants justice, which unfortunately is becoming rare in a chaotic society where the same values have been attacked.

[illegible]

The issue of C.M. contains the opinions of the members of the
 Advisory Board, who for convenience will be referred to as the
 Board of Advisors. We have published the opinions of the Board

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1990



READERS' FORUM

CRISIS UPON CRISIS

Two of your successive Editorials ending with "Crisis upon Crisis" (Sept 1990) prompted me to write this letter. The prevailing state of affairs is indeed disconcerting. The country seems to be in the doldrums and threatened with fragmentation. No one seems to bother about the essence and sanctity of a democratic system.

As matters stand today, people have to opt for either of the two alternatives—“bad” or “worse”, notwithstanding the good performance in the industrial sector and the 4.5 per cent growth rate per annum achieved during the eighties, the chronically ailing political scenario seems to be endangering the long-cherished democratic system.

Dishonesty and corruption have become rampant in every sphere of life. Everywhere, only opportunists and hypocrites are harvesting rich dividends. People are becoming disillusioned about the credibility of the political bigwigs and their high-sounding election manifestos. It is high time our political leaders (most of whom are short-sighted) heeded the writing on the wall.

Calcutta D.P. Bhattacharya

RESERVATION POLICY

The Government must scrap the present policy of reservations and introduce a new policy which would provide for financial assistance to the poorest members of society, irrespective of the caste or religion they belong to. The Government should provide for free education, free books, scholarships and pre-examination training. This would help the weaker sections to compete with others in every sphere with confidence. It would also be a positive step in developing national integration and in facilitating progress of the country.

Kotdwara Chandra Mohan Singh

Every system of reservations is against fair play. Reservations on the basis of religion or caste violate our Constitution. By seeking to implement the Mandal report the Government is taking the country into the past at a time when the world is heading towards the 21st century. Any reservation based on caste will only create endless tensions and lead to disintegration of the country. There are many “haves” among the backwards. What about the “have-nots” among the “upper” sections

of Indian society? Reservations, however, are not a panacea for all the ills the backward castes suffer from. By giving them all possible help the Government should enable them to compete with the rest. There should not be any compromise on merit.

Bhubaneswar Sudhansu Sekhar Mishra

The Prime Minister's sudden announcement about implementation of the Mandal Commission's recommendation for 27 per cent reservations for the other backward classes is an unjustified step which would create a sharp division of our society on caste lines.

It is indeed unfortunate that the announcement has come at a time when the backward classes were gradually getting integrated into the mainstream of our society. By this step they would be looked down upon as a different group. It will divide our society further. If this process goes on, animosity between the “reserved” and the “unreserved” classes cannot be ruled out.

Motihari Amit Alok

HUMAN RIGHTS IN INDIA

Your feature “Human Rights in India” in the September issue is very informative and deserves appreciation. Human Rights have been fully incorporated in the Constitution, but when the people are in urgent need of them, they are virtually denied.

Atrocities are being perpetrated on down-trodden people; women are being assaulted and poor people have to remain waiting for years to get their petitions heard in the courts and the injustice done to them redressed. Fundamental rights of individuals make fine reading, but they mean nothing in reality. So, all basic human rights should be enforced in all circumstances.

Hooghly Sanjoy Chanda

WORLD PROSPECTS

The world prospects are not at all bright for millions of innocent human beings all over the world to whom life is a burden.

Can any rational person deny the hard truth that a majority of the people living in the under-developed nations of Asia and Africa are still deprived of even the basic amenities of life, leave alone other things. They are leading a life not worth living. Hunger, poverty, exploitation and frustration are all they know about. Happiness and prosperity are unknown to them. What do the much flaunted principles of social and economic justice mean to those helpless, unknown, uncared for human beings?

When the world is preparing to step into the 21st century with the scientific advancements and notions of social equality at their climax, why are these people being made to struggle for their survival? Should we still blame Dame Fate? Do those entrusted with the task of safeguarding human rights really care for the tragic situation or do they just dismiss the matter with the comment: “Who cares”?

Patna Namrata Sinha

GRIP OF POVERTY

It is indeed alarming that among all the Third World countries, India has the largest number of people below the poverty line, although self-sustained growth has been the key objectives of our planners.

Growth is the true yardstick of economic development. In each Five Year Plan period we strive to achieve our targeted growth rate, but chronic budgetary deficits, low level of investment, a negative trade balance and rampant corruption hinder economic growth. No step taken by the Planning Commission and the Government proves effective.

Until we adopt a labour-intensive technology in the production process, self-sustained growth cannot be ensured.

Khaira Udaya Kumar Nanda

DESCRIPTIVE QUESTIONS

Thanks for incorporating ‘Descriptive Questions’ as a regular feature in “C.M.” This feature has proved very useful in some examinations. Indeed the “C.M.” is an indispensable magazine which occupies the leading position among magazines of this kind. Your ardent readers greatly appreciate this feature.

Tatanagar Srinivasa Rao

“C.M.” IN MY WORDS

I have been a regular reader of “CM” for the past one year. Besides its wide coverage of material for all competitive examinations, it provides something extra. It is different from all other magazines.

Your Annual Number, the special features without extra charge, the commented notes on current affairs, all types of Reasoning Tests make this magazine a distinctive one.

Lucknow Girdhar Lal Setha

PERSONALITY AND TENACITY

I am greatly satisfied with all the material about various topics which you provide, especially Personality Development. It is nicely presented topicwise. Tenacity of purpose should be the main clout of a person without procrastination. Hence, I would be glad if you extend the coverage of this feature so as to cover the cultivation of initiative and its impact.

24 Pgs. Rajkamal Dass

Notes on Current National Affairs

- ★ **WORLD BANK CLEARS SARDAR SAROVAR**
- ★ **FREE OIL: IRAQ'S GESTURE TO INDIA**
- ★ **INDIAN OCEAN AS PEACE ZONE**
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- ★ **INDIA OPPOSES USE OF FORCE**
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- ★ **INDIA EMERGING AS "BIG POWER"**
- ★ **INDIA REJECTS REGIONAL SECURITY SET-UP**

World Bank Clears Sardar Sarovar

After prolonged discussions and investigations the World Bank has cleared the Rs 1,200-crore Sardar Sarovar dam in the Narmada River Valley Project, rejecting all the arguments advanced against its construction by environmental groups, both in India and abroad.

The World Bank's report on environment, released late in September, did not share the concerns voiced by the Sarovar's critics regarding its economic viability, resettlement of the oustees and inundation of the forest land.

The Bank staff have concluded that the original economic rate of return of about 12 per cent is still correct. All three affected States—Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra—have now adopted policies for resettlement and rehabilitation. As for the claim that the Sardar Sarovar dam would inundate forest areas, the World Bank document pointed out there was very little forest (in the ecological sense) at stake because the areas designated as "forest land" were virtually without trees or other vegetation.

The World Bank had sanctioned loan of 450 million dollars in 1985 for the project, which comes to about five per cent of its total cost. The anti-dam lobby got strengthened with the suspension by Japan in May of its financial commitment for the current financial year for turbines and generators.

Free Oil: Iraq's Gesture to India

As a gesture of goodwill towards India, Iraq has made an exceptional gesture in order to relieve this country's economic distress caused by the Gulf crisis. It has offered to supply crude oil free of cost for 1990 and 1991, but the transport arrangements would have to be made by the Government of India. The deputy head of the Iraqi embassy in India gave this information in an interview on September 23.

Earlier, Iraq had offered to give

any Third World country crude free of cost until the end of this year. This offer would hold good even if the Gulf crisis was resolved before the end of 1991. But the purpose of offering this concession to India and the Third World countries was not linked with the crisis in West Asia but because of the heavy financial burden these countries would have to bear due to the steep hike in oil. "We do not want these countries to feel that Iraq is adversely affecting their welfare", he stressed. The Iraqi Government is aware of the needs of each country and would distribute the free crude oil according to the needs. The Iraqi diplomat accused the U.S. of trying to hike the prices of oil, even though there was no real shortage. As the trade blockade against Iraq continued, several other oil-producing countries, including Saudi Arabia, had increased their production to meet the world demand.

The assets of Indians in Kuwait and Iraq had to be frozen because Iraqi assets had been frozen by the West, the diplomat explained. "We have no intention of taking away these assets, but cannot make any promises at this stage as to when these will be released" he stated.

Indian Ocean as Peace Zone

India's repeated plea for making the Indian Ocean a Peace Zone has proved fruitless, but the effort continues. On September 24 the President of Seychelles, Mr France Albert Rene, and the President of India, Mr R. Venkataraman, underscored the need for intensified efforts to turn the Indian Ocean into a zone of peace. Mr Venkataraman expressed concern at the Gulf crisis which, he said, had "caused greater militarisation" in the Indian Ocean region. The security situation in the immediate neighbourhood has worsened considerably. He emphasised that the Gulf crisis required a "political, non-military solution". India had registered its opposition to the use of force in inter-State relations and called for prompt withdrawal of Iraq from Kuwait "whose sovereignty must be restored".

"There is clear evidence of Pakistani support for, and abetment of, terrorist and secessionist elements in Punjab and Kashmir. Despite this, we are continuing our efforts to dissuade Pakistan from interference in India's internal affairs", he stated.

According to Mr Rene, though the past two years had witnessed some momentous changes in many regions, notably Eastern Europe and southern Africa, leading to some "encouraging signs", the recent developments in the Gulf "serve to remind us of the fragility of world peace and of the dangers of complacency".

All nations, big and small, had to further the cause of peace and disarmament, "We should redouble our efforts at the regional level to ensure the establishment of the Indian Ocean as a zone of peace, in conformity with the 1971 Declaration adopted by the UN and supported by all States of the region."

Rich Nations Reject India's case

As was feared, the 10 richest members of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) have turned a deaf ear to Indian Finance Minister Madhu Dandavate's earnest pleas for a "bold initiative along the lines of the oil facility of 1974" to counter the effects of the Gulf crisis.

The "G-10", which have a major share in the organisation, also rejected the Finance Minister's plea for modification of existing facilities like the Compensatory and Contingency Financing Facility with an interest rate subsidy, easy access and flexible terms. The only concession they made was in urging the Bretton Woods institutions to "adopt appropriate measures to respond flexibly and in a timely manner".

Aid would be forthcoming, the G-10 said, but only if the countries in question put their house in order and "are more active than they have been in the past in their adjustment efforts".

Debt Strategy faulty: The latest

debt relief strategy devised by the richer nations has been found full of loopholes by the U.N. Conference on Trade and Development. UNCTAD estimates that it will bring only a half of commercial debt relief needed by the debt-laden countries. For countries highly indebted towards commercial banks, the strategy depends on the provision of new money. Banks have been extremely reluctant to play this role.

Last year, the level of concerted bank lending to the debt-distressed countries dwindled to a mere 2.3 billion, one-fifth of the 1984 level. The new debt strategy is asymmetric concerning future contingencies. Accordingly, the creditors would gain if the country's position improves, but are not obliged to help if it deteriorates. Additional resources are needed to reduce the debt owed by the poorer countries to multilateral financial institutions, in a manner that safeguards the financial viability of those institutions.

Supreme Court's Stay Order

The series of immolations by frustrated youth in North India, the prolonged tensions, the curfew in many towns, the disruption of public activity and the widespread protests by numerous organisations in the country against the Government's reservations policy distinctly decreased from October 2. On the previous day the Supreme Court stayed the August 13 notification for implementation of the Mandal Commission recommendation.

The sudden intensification of the anti-reservation agitation had caused the death of about 60 people, including 36 in police firing and 20 in self-immolation. At least 294 people had been injured during the agitation.

A five-judge Constitution bench, headed by the Chief Justice, held that the identification of the castes shall continue. "Until the matter is heard and we expect it to be finished before the end of the year, no further steps should be taken." The court also advanced the hearing of the main case challenging the 27 per cent job reser-

vation policy for backward classes.

The Attorney-General, Mr Soli Sorabjee, had urged the court to reaffirm its order of September 21 not to modify the August 13 notifications. Grant of stay due to the agitation would set a wrong precedent, he said. "If the court grants stay on the grounds of self-immolations and suicides, it will be a self-immolation of this institution", Mr Sorabjee contended. The court reiterated that the legitimate interests of every backward class shall be appropriately protected.

The bench also recorded the statement of the Attorney-General that the prevailing benefits of reservation for the handicapped have not been affected by the Government order. Quoting the Attorney-General that identification of castes would take two to three months, the court said it was not in dispute that until such identification was made, no further steps for conferring benefits contained in the Government's order of August 13 could be worked out.

"Backward Classes" Identified

While the process of identifying "backward classes" who are to benefit from Mandal Report implementation continues, a study by the Anthropological Survey of India has identified 1,051 backward classes in the country. (The Mandal Commission has listed more than 3000 communities as socially and educationally backward.)

The objective of the project, launched in 1985, was different from that of the Mandal Commission. It was to generate brief descriptive anthropological profile of all communities of India, the impact of change and development process on them and the linkage that brings them together. The study is free from political overtones.

The study has been able to identify, and locate 4,384 communities, including Scheduled Castes (443), Scheduled Tribes (426), backward classes (1,051), and other communities.

The study reveals the strength and continuity of regional identities which go back to the prehistoric times, in terms of genetic characteristics of populations, language and literature, material culture, food habits, rituals, folk lore, local forms of religion, fairs and festivals etc. These regional identities are primarily secular, according to the study.

Only about 10 per cent of communities are spread over more than one State or adjoining area of States. They consist of traders, merchants, artisans, minorities and so on. There has been a good deal of occupational mobility and change in spite of continuity. Segments of a community have moved away from traditional moorings or a section of a community has given up its traditional occupation, and adopted a new technology. Almost all communities of India have felt the impact of change and development, of market and technology.

India opposes use of force

In accordance with her policy of peace and her opposition to use of force to settle international disputes, the Indian Government has not supported the U.N. proposal to use force, when necessary, against Iraq. This stand has naturally annoyed the U.S. which is unhappy at India's reluctance to pledge unrestrained support to U.N.-backed move to use force against Iraq if the economic sanctions failed. India has indicated that it would not make judgements in anticipation and would weigh the situation when the time comes.

U.S. administration sources acknowledged that "misperceptions or misunderstandings" regarding India's position with regard to the Iraqi aggression had been cleared in recent high-level contacts where New Delhi had reiterated its support to the international community's condemnation of Baghdad for its invasion of Kuwait.

However, they noted that India had refused to give the administration any assurance of how it would react if the economic sanctions failed

to coerce President Saddam Hussein to withdraw his troops from Kuwait. India is solidly with the rest of the international community as far as the U.N. economic sanctions and embargo against Iraq are concerned, but New Delhi has declined to make a commitment regarding the use of force.

Article 41 of the U.N. Charter authorises the use of "all appropriate measures, including force, to enforce sanctions". The military option had been backed by the Soviet Foreign Minister, Mr Eduard Shevardnadze's speech to the United Nations, where he unequivocally condemned Iraq's aggression and called it "an act of terrorism" and "an affront to world order". If diplomacy does not work, Moscow may support U.N.-sanctioned military action to force the Iraqis out. This was the kind of support the U.S. had been expecting from the international community, including India.

Merit as basis of NTS scholarships

Amidst all the talk of more reservations, regardless of talent, comes a refreshing report of a Lok Sabha committee. It has suggested that merit alone should be the basis for awarding National Talent Search (NTS) scholarships given by the National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT). In its first report, the committee said if at all some income limit of parents had to be fixed, it should not be less than Rs 5,000 per month to enable meritorious children of middle class families to benefit by the scheme.

The committee has welcomed the changes in the National Talent Search Scheme. These revisions include, among other things, increasing the number of scholarships from 750 to 2,000 in a phased manner and also the rate of scholarship and raising the limits on parents' income for the purpose of awarding scholarship from Rs 1,000 to Rs 2,000 per month.

But the committee contended that in revising the limit to Rs 2,000 per month the Government had not

fully taken into account crucial factors like the continuous inflationary trends, particularly the high cost of living in bigger cities and the high cost of education.

76th Constitutional Amendment

Both Houses of Parliament passed with massive majorities the 76th Constitutional Amendment which clears the way for yet another extension of President's rule in Punjab for six months from November 10. Consequently, there would be no elections in the State yet. The earlier 75th amendment, for the same purpose, fell through because the Congress declined to back it. In the Lok Sabha this time the vote was 432 for and only four against; in the Rajya Sabha the voting was 212 against 4.

The Union Government reiterated its intention to hold elections in Punjab as early as possible but it was anxious to ensure a free and fair poll. The Government had postponed its earlier plan because the proper conditions for such an exercise do not exist. The Prime Minister had held lengthy discussions with leaders of various parties, and all of them felt that a fair poll could not be held in the present conditions.

A BJP spokesman expressed the widely shared view that if elections were held at this stage, secessionist and terrorist elements would get encouragement and pose a threat to the nation's unity and integrity.

New Package for Punjab: In an effort to involve the people, though in a limited way, with the administration of the State during the extended President's rule, the Government intends to form an Advisory Council. This body would have the authority to establish advisory committees of traders, farmers, students and others at the State and district levels. The Prime Minister put forth the suggestion that the Constitution should be further amended to provide for the formation of a high-powered council, including senior leaders, former Chief Ministers and others, so that it could involve the people during spells of President's rule.

An economic package was also decided upon to establish large industrial complexes, a petro-chemical complex, more sugar mills and four textile mills. Together, these would provide employment to hundreds of unemployed youth. Effective machinery is also to be established to check misuse of power by the police and the para-military security forces. Rs 100 crore will be earmarked for human resource development in three border districts.

Constitutional Crisis: The National Front Government faced a constitutional crisis on October 1 when the Bill seeking extension of President's rule in Punjab fell through in the Lok Sabha. The Congress suddenly decided not to participate in the voting; so the ruling alliance failed to gather the required support of a simple majority. While 249 members voted for the Constitution Amendment Bill, three opposed it. The House currently has a strength of 524 (excluding the Speaker and 20 vacancies) and 263 votes are needed for a simple majority.

The falling through of the Bill caused much embarrassment to the National Front. Members of the Janata Dal and its allies, especially the CPM and the CPI, charged the Congress with having gone back on its assurance of support to the vital legislation "to score a debating point". The Congress apparently sought a political gain by its stand. The Union Minister for Parliamentary Affairs accused the Congress Party of "bad faith and betrayal".

The total combined strength of the National Front and its supporting parties being 283 in the Lok Sabha, no Constitutional amendment bill can be passed unless the Congress cooperates. Such a bill can be passed only by two-thirds of the members present in the House. This can happen only if the opposition supports the National Front on such measures.

V.P. Singh Stays Put

The mini-revolt in the ruling National Front against Mr V.P. Singh's leadership and dissidence on

the basis of "mismanagement of affairs and the widespread disturbances in North and Central India" faded out when its parliamentary party met on Sept. 30. Mr V.P. Singh won a fresh vote of confidence with a large majority. The rebel group numbered 25, though on Oct 5 it was learnt that 29 M.P.s had demanded Mr V.P. Singh's resignation. The party not only reaffirmed its full faith in Mr V.P. Singh's leadership but also supported his policy of implementing the Mandal Report. The Prime Minister emerged stronger from the meeting.

The parliamentary party meeting, which was attended by 133 of the National Front's 212 members of Parliament had aroused considerable interest not only because the dissidents were expected to challenge the Prime Minister's leadership but also because the Government's handling of the anti-reservation agitation was expected to come under attack. But there was no showdown.

Some members felt that those opposed to the reservations policy should resign from the party, as the party manifesto had clearly promised implementation of the Mandal Commission report.

Devi Lal Quits: Mr Devi Lal resigned from the Lok Sabha in protest against the "style, timing and the manner" in which the Prime Minister had accepted the Mandal Commission recommendations. He made it clear that he was not resigning from the Janata Dal but indicated that he favoured a change in the party leadership. Mr Devi Lal sent a letter to the Janata Dal President, Mr S.R. Bommai, requesting him to forward the resignation to the Lok Sabha Speaker.

New Law for Panchayati Raj

Yet another Constitutional amendment is on the anvil, and this is the 74th in the long unending series. This amendment, introduced in Parliament recently, seeks to streamline the country's panchayat system, mostly on the lines proposed in the Rajiv Gandhi Government's 64th Amend-

ment Bill, 1989. Among other things, the Bill seeks a five-year tenure for panchayati raj institutions and urban local bodies and the holding of elections within six months in the event of their supersession. The Bill provides for direct elections to urban local bodies and for the reservation of not less than one-third of the seats for women.

The Bill proposes to add a new section in the Constitution to provide for a *gram sabha* in each village and panchayats at the village level. There would be *Nagar Panchayats* for transitional areas, municipal councils for smaller urban areas and corporations for larger urban areas. Direct elections to urban local bodies and to all seats in panchayats have been suggested. It proposes to confer powers on State legislatures to make provisions for elections to local authorities and barring interference by courts in electoral matters regarding local authorities.

The Constitution may guarantee that a minimum of 50 per cent of the Centre's aggregate revenue resources should be given to the States; similarly, a minimum of 50 per cent of each State's revenue should be earmarked for panchayats and urban local bodies.

There should be a new planning regime under which planning is viewed as a national task rather than Central and include matters like the right balance between defence and development. Nyaya Panchayats for dispensing speedy justice to villagers need to be introduced. If the jurisdiction of the Election Commission is to extend to panchayat elections, steps should be taken to make the new Constitutional authority more independent. It is conceded that political will is important to ensure smooth functioning of panchayats.

Christian SCs' demands to be conceded

In accordance with its latest policy, the National Front Government intends to concede the demands of the various religious minorities, including the Christian Scheduled Caste people. The Labour and Social Wel-

fare Minister, Mr Paswan, indicated at Madurai that the National Front Government is quite aware of the "justified demands" of Christians of Scheduled Caste origin and will not hesitate to equate them with their counterparts in other religions. There were certain legal implications. It was after a long process that neo-Buddhists had been included in the list of Scheduled Castes this year.

The Archbishop of Madurai pointed out that while tribals belonging to any religion were not discriminated in the matter of concessions, Scheduled Caste Christians were denied the privileges given to Hindu SCs. He urged the Centre to accord all benefits enjoyed by people of Scheduled Caste origin belonging to other religions to SC Christians as well.

Addressing the Tamil Nadu women's conference, Mr Paswan said the National Front Government is committed to the uplift of women and people in the rural areas. The Government has decided to allocate 30 per cent of seats in Panchayats for women. The National Commission on Women would go into the atrocities against women and suggest preventive steps.

India emerging as "big power"

According to U.S. official sources, India sees itself as an emerging great power and is determined to achieve a dominant position in South Asia commensurate with its overwhelming preponderance in population, resources and economic strength, by the late 1990s.

"Over the next ten years, we expect Indian power projection capabilities to improve substantially in the areas of maritime strike, amphibious assault, heavy airlift and naval and forward air base construction", the Pentagon says in its annual report entitled "Soviet Military Power".

Furthermore, by the late 1990s, India may have medium and even inter-continental-range ballistic missiles with nuclear warheads. The report evaluates not only Soviet

power but also the power of countries with whom the Soviets have close relations in the Third World. Beyond the next decade, however, as India develops its economic and military potential, it is likely that New Delhi will become an even more influential country.

However, there is nothing to indicate that India will make serious efforts to exercise its military power outside the Indian Ocean, even with arcas with large overseas Indian communities. Troubled relations with her neighbours, especially Pakistan, will tend to preoccupy India's attention, as well as domestic sectarian strife in Punjab and elsewhere.

This year's assessment by the Pentagon shows that even though the Cold War between the US and the Soviet Union is over, there is no let-up in the struggle between the Super Powers for influence in, or friendship with, India. The report is one of the most carefully prepared documents of the Pentagon. It says: "Following its rift with China in the early sixties, the Soviet Union sought to promote a special relationship with India in order to expand its own regional influence and limit that of China, and to a lesser extent, the U.S."

India rejects Regional Security Set-up

India's External Affairs Minister I.K. Gujral has rejected as "undesirable" any attempt to create a Gulf security system around a substantial military presence of non-regional Powers and called for political settlement of the crisis under the U.N. initiative.

Strongly opposing the induction of fresh arms in the region as a means of underpinning the regional security system, Mr Gujral cautioned on September 27 that it would spill the crisis far beyond. Infusion of fresh arms would make the situation highly unstable and trigger a regional arms race. Also, the fluidity of arms supply, which makes it difficult to ensure that it is used by those for whom it is intended, would create instability beyond the region.

India's stand is that a true

security system must be based on disarmament rather than armaments. Moreover, it should be within the framework of the United Nations and be enforced with the help of the U.N. Peace Keeping Force.

Pak response wanting: Mr Gujral has regretted the deteriorating relations between India and Pakistan. Despite India's sincere efforts, its relations with Pakistan have deteriorated; tension has increased as Islamabad is openly training, arming, funding and motivating the subversives in Punjab and Jammu and Kashmir.

While India's relations with other neighbours have improved under the Janata Dal Government, Pakistan has not responded to India's offer for normal and good neighbourly relations. The present state of relationship with Pakistan counters India's policy of turning South Asia into a region of friendship.

India has stressed the need for strengthening SAARC, the seven-nation alliance, as it gave both clout and opportunities to the South Asian countries, and hoped that Afghanistan and Myanmar (Burma) would also join to make it more effective. The two countries belonged to South Asia rather than to any other geopolitical region.

Ties with Lanka: The renewed hostilities between the Sri Lankan Government and the LTTE have been causing strain on Indo-Sri Lanka relations. India believes that there can be no military solution of the ethnic problem in Sri Lanka and only a negotiated political solution which meets the legitimate Tamil demands can resolve the issue. Such a solution can only be found on the basis of safeguarding the democratic and human rights of all Sri Lankan citizens.

The high rate of civilian casualties in Sri Lanka has caused great concern to India and has built up emotional and psychological pressure in an important section of the population. Besides, the war had created a difficult situation for India with the arrival of about 125,000 Lankan Tamils in Tamil Nadu.

Notes on Current International Affairs

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Revolutionary Step for Blacks

Yet another step which would expedite dismantling the apartheid set-up was announced in September by South African President F.W. de Klerk: his all-White ruling national party will open its membership to all races, including the Blacks. According to him, the party had a clear mandate from the electorate to negotiate a new constitution—a mandate giving all South Africans the right to participate in government at all levels in power-sharing without domination.

Power sharing of necessity implies joint decision-making on matters of common interest in constitutional structures. "The requirement of no domination means that power has to be shared in such a way that a majority will neither have absolute power nor be able to abuse its power to the detriment of minorities or for their suppression", Mr Klerk said. Among all population groups there is reportedly a growing realisation that this policy offers the only workable framework for a stable new South Africa. The ruling national party has been consistently practising apartheid since it came to power in 1948.

Reforms too slow: The S. African President, who held talks with U.S. President George Bush in Washington at the end of September, promised a new Constitution with an independent judiciary, a Bill of Rights and also a system of constitutional checks and balances to prevent abuse of power and discrimination against minorities. The U.S. feels that the S. African Government has not yet done enough to justify lifting of sanctions against the apartheid regime. The U.S. President pledged assistance in the process of change in S. Africa.

Amnesty Call on Torture Issue

The Amnesty International appealed to governments around the world, in the last week of September, to stop illegal killing, torture and arbitrary imprisonment of children.

At the world summit for children in New York—one of the largest gatherings of the world leaders ever—the human rights organisation said governments must act now to end brutal treatment of children.

Children are often deliberately targeted for human rights violations because they are seen as a social or political threat. In Brazil and Guatemala, where the number of street children has grown dramatically in recent years, they risk their lives simply by being on the streets. They are tortured and extra-judicially executed by the police on duty or in death squads often in the name of "cleaning up the streets".

In Iraq, according to Amnesty International, hundreds of children have been ill-treated, many of whom have "disappeared" or been tortured. Hundreds more children died in Iraqi chemical weapons attacks on Kurdish communities which claimed the lives of thousands of people.

Often children are particular victims of conflicts between government forces and armed opposition groups. During the state of emergency in South Africa between 1985 and 1987, for instance, an estimated 10,000 children were detained without charge or trial.

Many Palestinian children have been killed or beaten in the course of the "Intifada" in the Israeli-occupied territories since 1987. In some countries juvenile offenders may also be sentenced to death by the courts.

Corruption Charges Against Benazir

As was widely believed, the Pakistan's Caretaker Government has manoeuvred to bring grave charges of graft and corruption against Ms Benazir Bhutto. The real motive is to disqualify her from contesting the elections. It is apparently part of the game of revenge. The ousted Prime Minister has been directed to stand trial on corruption charges. If convicted, she could be debarred from elections and from participating in politics for a period up to seven years. In one case she is alleged to have sold 287 acres of

prime land in Islamabad to a dubious company bearing the address of a London night club, partly owned by her first cousin.

Sensational allegations of misuse of secret service funds to win over loyalties of wavering legislators and tapping telephones of political allies and foes alike have been levelled. Ms Bhutto is accused of having withdrawn funds of the Intelligence Bureau (IB) to purchase loyalty of members of the National Assembly a few days prior to the opposition sponsored no-confidence motion against her in October, 1989. One of her aides allegedly withdrew Rs 7 crore from the secret funds on verbal instructions of the former Prime Minister's special assistant Maj Gen (Retd.) Nasirullah Babar.

Pak-de facto N-weapons State

Despite denials by its successive Prime Ministers, the fact has now been virtually established that Pakistan is a *de facto* nuclear weapons State. About four years after it first achieved the ability to produce nuclear weapons, Pakistan today can probably deploy five to 10 nuclear bombs for delivery by aircraft, according to a Carnegie Endowment report.

The report ("Nuclear Ambitions") said under Benazir Bhutto's leadership, Pakistan had continued to expand its ability to produce weapons-grade nuclear material free from International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) safeguards. Pakistan also resorted to clandestine nuclear trade to advance its nuclear programme, disclosed the report. Pakistan is also actively pursuing the development of nuclear-capable ballistic missiles.

The two new surface-to-surface ballistic missiles (HATF I and HATF II) which Pakistan had tested last year, had payloads of 500 kg, in effect making them powerful enough to carry a relatively crude nuclear warhead. The larger missile could reach major targets in Northern and Western India, and although New Delhi was at the margin of its range,

HATF II could reach the Indian capital if its payloads were reduced.

After years of insisting that Pakistan's nuclear programme was entirely peaceful, senior Pakistani officials have begun to quote the military value of the country's nuclear capability in their public statements.

China is believed to have provided essential weapons-related nuclear aid directly to Pakistan, including the design of nuclear device detonated in China's fourth nuclear test, uranium enrichment knowhow, and according to reports in the British press, quantities of weapons-usable highly enriched uranium sufficient for Pakistan to build two nuclear devices.

Pak Buying N. Sub: Pakistani navy is buying a nuclear-powered attack submarine from China talks on which are under way. The cost of the submarine, without weapons, is estimated to be upwards of \$ 63 million. With weapons, training and a support package added, the price tag will be significantly higher. The craft is a 'Han' class model, and the first of the Chinese-developed nuclear submarines, dating from the 1970s. The deal is believed to involve a recently updated variant. The purchase of this submarine by Pakistan will have a definite impact on the regional naval balance.

The Indian Navy will have more to contend with than midget submarines and submarine-launched Harpoon missiles, according to defence experts. The training of Pakistani navy personnel will be done at Chinese facilities. Pakistan, experts say, is keen to acquire the submarine to match India's INS "Chakra" of the Charlie I class, while the Chinese are eager to get the money for their own naval modernisation programme.

Accord on Lanka Provinces Merger

Tamil and Muslim political parties in Sri Lanka have unanimously agreed on the controversial question of merger of the Tamil majority northern and eastern provinces. Agreement was also reached on Sept. 24 on State-sponsored colonisation of the

eastern province and giving "due place" to the Muslims in the region. Leaders of the six parties made it clear that the permanent merger of the northern and eastern provinces was "non-negotiable".

The two provinces were merged under the provisions of the July, 1987, Indo-Sri Lanka accord, which also provided for holding a referendum in the multi-ethnic east for the people there to decide whether they would like to remain part of the merged province. Meanwhile, the six parties demanded the immediate disbanding of the Muslim homeguards in the East, charging that they were carrying on a campaign of looting, abduction, extortion and rape against the Tamil people, often in the presence of the security forces.

Besides the ACTC and the EPRLF, the other parties were the Tamil Eelam Liberation Organisation (TELO), the People's Liberation Organisation of Tamil Eelam (PLOT), the Eelam National Democratic Liberation Front (ENDLF) and the Tamil United Liberation Front (TULF).

The Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam ((LTTE)), which is bitterly opposed to the six parties and is waging a war against the State in the north-east, accused the Government of "implementing its genocidal programme by massacring Tamil civilians, especially in the eastern province".

"The naked terrorism of the Government is unleashed on unarmed, innocent Tamil civilian population in order to chase Tamils out of the eastern province and colonise those areas with Sinhalese settlers", the LTTE charged. It also said anti-social elements within the Muslim community were being used by the Government to massacre Tamil civilians under its policy of "divide and destroy".

U.S. Cuts Down military bases

In accordance with its revised military strategy following the end of the Cold War with all its rivalries and tensions, the U.S. Government announced in September that the

military authorities would close down 128 military installations in eight foreign countries and cut down operations in 23 others beginning next year. The operations would be shut down at 95 installations in West Germany, 11 in Spain, nine in South Korea and three in Greece, Italy, Britain and Australia. The naval air facility in Japan would also be closed down.

Military operations would be scaled down at 14 military installations in West Germany, three in South Korea, two in Spain and one each in Italy, Japan, Canada and the Bermuda Islands.

Negotiators in Manila disclosed that the USA would gradually begin withdrawing from its two largest overseas bases—Clark air base and Subic Bay naval base—in the Philippines. U.S. and Philippine officials recently opened talks on the future of U.S. military bases and the chief American negotiator said the days of a large U.S. military presence “are coming to an end”. The lease on the bases expires in September, 1991 and the effort is for “orderly withdrawal” of the 40,000 American troops, Defence Department civilians and military dependents stationed there. Hard bargaining may lie ahead to determine the speed of a phase-out. Opposition to the bases has been growing among Filipinos who consider them an infringement on their national sovereignty.

Move for Stronger UN

The UN Secretary-General, Mr Javier Perez de Cuellar, has called for strengthening the peace-keeping role of the UN Security Council to meet emerging situations. In a report to the 45th session of the General Assembly, Mr Cuellar suggested that the Council should hold periodic meetings to survey the political scene and identify points of danger at which preventive or anticipatory diplomacy may be required.

The peace-making capacity of the UN would be considerably strengthened if the Security Council has a peace agenda that is not con-

finied to items formally inscribed at the requests of member-States. A suggestion has also been made for strengthening the fact finding arrangement, establishing a UN presence in unstable areas and in instituting subsidiary bodies, where appropriate, for preventive diplomacy. The strategy of peace must reflect a better regard for timing than has been the case so far. “The organisations, mediatory and investigative capacity should not be kept in reserve until too late to avert hostilities.”

In many cases threats to national and international security are no longer as neatly separated as they were before. In not a few countries, civil strife takes a heavy toll of human life and has repercussions beyond national borders.

UN body to run Cambodia

A workable solution is in sight at last for the complex political tangle in Cambodia. The main features of this compromise plan, finalised by the five permanent members of the U.N. Security Council, are: A cease-fire between various factions, wide role for the UN, including holding of free and fair election and country's administration, and provision for “perpetual neutrality” in the Constitution.

The plan also calls for establishment of a Supreme National Council which will be more or less a symbolic body as the entire administration will be run by the UN. But the question of how many representatives each faction should have on it could become a major bone of contention between the four warring Cambodian factions and could stall the plan's execution.

Under the plan, which could end the 20-year old civil war, all forces would be regrouped and re-located in specifically designated cantonment areas and their arms stored under the supervision of the UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC). The States participating in the Paris conference will be required to conclude a multilateral agreement to respect the independence, sovereignty, territorial integrity and in-

violability, neutrality, and national unity of Cambodia. Other UN members could also declare their adherence to the agreement.

The Plan envisages the SNC ceding to UNTAC powers, including foreign affairs, defence, finance, public security and information, as also authority over bodies and officers who could directly influence the outcome of the elections. Under the plan, Hun Sen's Government would have to cede much of the control but the other three factions which include Khmer Rouge do not have much to lose. Prince Sihanouk heads a weak coalition of three factions.

Big Powers Seek Peace

There has lately been a notable shift among the Big Powers from war-like postures to a peaceful approach regarding the Gulf crisis. In place of a military solution, they favour a settlement through negotiations and diploma. This is also the general sentiment in the world. No longer is there an accent on the use of force, which was sanctioned even by the U.N. Security Council. Addressing the U.N. General Assembly, President Bush said: “All of us at the U.N. hope military force will never have to be used.”

Mr Bush said that the U.S. forces in the region were intended to enforce sanctions against Iraq and to deter any further aggression. “We seek no advantage for ourselves, nor do we seek to maintain our military forces in Saudi Arabia for one day longer than necessary.”

The general tenor of the President's speech seemed to suggest that the U.S. is backtracking from the idea of using force to achieve its objectives in the Gulf, which include the vacation of Iraqi aggression against Kuwait and restoration of the legitimate government in Kuwait.

Urging the Iraqi regime to face facts, Mr Bush reiterated that the annexation of Kuwait “will not be permitted to stand”. This was not simply the view of the U.S.A. “It is the view of every Kuwaiti, the Arab League and the United Nations. It is Iraq against the world.” The U.S. sup-

ported the use of sanctions to compel Iraq's leaders to withdraw from Kuwait.

President Mitterrand of France also echoed the same sentiment, combining an offer to resolve differences in West Asia with reiteration of the aim to restore the sovereignty of Kuwait. But there has been a sharp increase in the military build-up in the Gulf.

U.N. Council members Renew demand: On September 30 five permanent members of the U.N. Security Council reiterated the demand that Iraq withdraw from Kuwait and allow foreign nationals to go. On that very day the U.S.A. stepped up signals from Washington for an early war against Iraq without waiting for the sanctions to bite. The signals included reaffirmation of President Bush that "all our options are open"—his code words for the possibility of war—to liberate Kuwait if Iraq does not quit peacefully.

The Council members also favour a comprehensive West Asia settlement that would ensure the security of Israel as well as the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people. Meanwhile, Iran pledged to fully apply U.N. sanctions against Iraq and agreed on the need for future security cooperation among Gulf States.

U.S. proposals for a regional security plan in the Gulf after the Kuwait crisis is over have alarmed some Iranian politicians, who fear they could lead to a long-term U.S. presence in the area. Meanwhile, the U.S., in a move to avoid antagonising China, turned down an offer by Taiwan to contribute about \$ 100 million to help pay for military operations in the Gulf.

Nuclear Arms Use: The British troops in the Gulf are reportedly authorised to use nuclear weapons if attacked with chemical gas by Iraqi troops. A senior officer attached to Britain's 7th Armoured Brigade, which was on its way to Saudi Arabia to join the multi-national Gulf force, has been quoted as saying that if U.K. forces are attacked with chemical gas by Iraqi troops, they will retaliate with

battle-field nuclear weapons.

Setback to Iraq: In the midst of West Asia's shifting alignments, the close relationship between Syria and Iran (stable for 11 years) have disappointed Iraq. Syrian President Assad's talks with Iran's President, Hashemi Rafsanjani, have again emphasised the durability of this relationship despite active Syrian support to the U.S. and Saudi Arabia in the present crisis.

Mr Assad and Mr Rafsanjani deliberately ruled out softening the repudiation of Iraqi aggression and concentrated instead on the fight against the danger to Iranian interests as well as those of the other Islamic countries in the region, posed by the Western military build-up there. Apparently, Mr Assad who had held talks with the U.S. Secretary of State in Damascus, was able to convince Mr Rafsanjani that this build-up would be scaled down once Iraq withdraws from Kuwait.

Saddam calls for Arab solution: Iraqi President Saddam Hussein on October 1 called for a purely Arab solution to the conflict in the region and demanded immediate withdrawal of all foreign troops. "If dialogue replaces threats and the policy of peace replaces that of military build-ups, we will not dispute where the starting point should be", he said in a message to world Muslims. But Iraq would not compromise on its demand for withdrawal of foreign forces from the Gulf and end of the economic blockade imposed by the Security Council to force him to end his occupation of Kuwait.

France has 4,000 soldiers in Saudi Arabia, stationed alongside units from the U.S.A., Britain, Egypt, Morocco, Syria and Pakistan to guard against a possible attack by Iraq. But Iraq has consistently denied having any intentions of attacking Saudi Arabia.

War Preferable to Surrender

The prospects of peace in the Gulf region receded on October 5 when an Iraqi spokesman declared that his country would prefer war to

surrender and capitulation in the face of foreign hegemony that puts the wealth of the Arab world in the hands of foreigners. Ruling out any pull-out from Kuwait, the Iraqi Deputy Prime Minister stated that his country favoured a dialogue within "international legitimacy and without preconditions".

While rejecting all pleas for an Iraqi withdrawal from Kuwait, he suggested that a U.S. pull-out from Saudi Arabia would pave the way for a settlement of the present Gulf crisis and other Middle East problems. Iraq has rejected any international initiative that does not take into account the Arab problems.

NAM offer to mediate: On October 5 the 102-member NAM again offered to mediate in the Gulf dispute but at the same time it condemned the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait. NAM described the annexation of Kuwait as "unacceptable, null and void". It sought reinstallation of Kuwait's legitimate government as well as release of all foreign hostages. Obviously, Baghdad is isolated even among the non-aligned countries. NAM nations fear further escalation of the crisis into a military conflict with unforeseen consequences for peace and security in the region as well as in the world.

The NAM countries regretted that Iraq had refused to accept their mediation offers as well as by other States. They expressed their full support to UN Security Council resolutions on the crisis.

Birth of United Germany

In what is regarded as one of the most momentous and historic events since the end of World War II, East and West Germany United to form a new, powerful State. The emergence, at midnight of October 3, of United Germany in fact symbolises the unity of East and West after 45 years of a double-faced existence. The Foreign Ministers of the four allied countries which defeated Germany in 1945 signed the treaty for unification. The occasion was marked by festivities and new hopes. United Germany is now a force to be reck-

oned with, economically, industrially and militarily.

The treaty provides for formation of a fully sovereign democratic and peaceful Germany. But it puts severe restrictions on German manoeuvrability for war or aggression which would be unconstitutional and criminal. United Germany would not produce, or possess, atomic biological and chemical weapons. Its armed forces would be limited to 370,000 troops in the eastern part after 1994, when Soviet troops withdraw; only German troops under NATO command would be stationed, without any nuclear arsenal.

The new political entity has an area of 357,000 sq km and a population of 79 million. Many people expect a reshuffling of the world geo-political order. The developing countries, notably India, have to readjust their postures regarding this East-West consolidation of Europe.

Chancellor Helmut Kohl assured that the new Germany would strive for peace and never forget the victims of Nazism. Nations across the globe publicly welcomed the new State.

Moscow upgrades ties with Israel

A notable development early in October was the upgrading of diplomatic relations between the Soviet Union and Israel, which is the traditional U.S. protegee. They will open consulates in each other's country. The decision, taken by Foreign Ministers David Levy and Eduard Shevardnadze, represented a big new step in thawing relations frozen for two decades after the 1967 West Asia war.

The two countries began defrosting their contacts in 1987, when the Soviets posted a delegation in Tel-Aviv. A year later, Israel established a low-level mission in Moscow.

Seoul-Moscow Relations: President Roh Tae Woo disclosed that diplomatic relations with the Soviet Union will help spur unification of the bitterly divided Korean peninsula. Renewed ties between Moscow, and Seoul, recently announced, will

make it impossible for North Korea alone to resist the tidal wave of change sweeping the world. New relations between Seoul and Moscow climax a two-year effort by Mr Roh to develop trade and diplomatic ties with communist and socialist allies of rival North Korea in the hope of easing tensions.

Communist North Korea had vigorously lobbied in Moscow, its long-time ally and arms provider, against establishing relations with its arch-rival, capitalist South Korea. The announcement of formal relations made by the foreign ministers of the two nations was viewed as a major diplomatic blow to North Korea. Mr Roh felt that it was an opportunity for the rigid and totalitarian north to open its doors.

Pro-democracy Stir in Bhutan

After the refreshing winds of democracy in Nepal, it was only a question of time for the people of Bhutan to start a similar movement in their orthodox, tradition-bound landlocked kingdom. The heavy bloodshed in Bhutan towards the close of September (327 killed between Sept 20 and Sept 25) was initially a sequel to the months-old tussle between traditional Bhutanese tribes living mostly in the northern areas and the Nepali immigrants living in the south. Unfortunately, the feud has overflowed into India.

There was a clash between the Bhutanese military force and a Nepali mob. The demonstrators were pressing for grant of a 13-point charter of demands, including multi-party democracy and human rights for every citizen.

Bhutan has expelled thousands of illegal Nepali immigrants who are still forced to reside in camps on Indian territory. It is learnt that discontented businessmen and others having links with India have been projecting their protest as a struggle between democracy and the feudalistic regime governing Bhutan. Like the Nepalese, these Bhutanese elements, including political dissidents, have been seeking India's intervention to support the

cause of democracy. India has made it clear that it has no intention to encourage dissident activity.

Later reports indicate that King Jigme Singye Wangchuk has for the first time realised that the dissidents are a notable political force; he is willing to enter into a dialogue to settle the ethnic conflict in his country. But conditions must be conducive for such a dialogue. The dissidents are not inclined to accept the King's conditions.

U.S. Military Aid to Pak Suspended

Vocal legislators and others in the U.S.A. occasionally raise the issue of American military aid to Pakistan and seek its suspension or even stoppage in view of Islamabad's reluctance to halt its nuclear programme. On October 5 the American Administration, heeding the growing criticism of its policy, informed Pakistan of its decision to suspend military aid. This came at a crucial time for Pakistan.

Pursuing the point, the U.S. Ambassador to Islamabad, Mr Robert Oakley, urged the Pakistan Government to testify that it is not manufacturing nuclear weapons and to open its nuclear facilities for inspection to pave the way for issuing the requisite certificate to continue military aid.

Significantly, the Ambassador, who called on the President Ghulam Ishaq Khan, conveyed the assessment made by the Pentagon; it had information that Pakistan is manufacturing a nuclear device. In a totally unconvincing denial, which may enable the pro-Pakistani lobby in Washington to get the President's decision reversed, the Pakistan President asserted that his country was not making any nuclear device, and that it is facing a difficult situation with threats on its borders with Afghanistan, Kashmir and India. The reality is that there is no such threat.

The certification is necessary for the U.S. Government to give military aid under the Pressler Amendment. American economic aid is not affected by Mr Bush's refusal at present to issue the requisite certificate.

Economic Scene

FARM PRICING POLICY

Q. Make a brief appraisal of the farm pricing policy recently announced by the Central government.

Ans The Centre announces every year on the eve of the sowing season of crops the procurement/support prices at which the government would purchase the agricultural produce after it is harvested or marketed. The objectives are: (a) To stabilise the prices of crops, particularly of foodgrains, so that the farmer-producer has not only to make distress sales but, on the contrary, makes a reasonably high income; (b) To build up buffer stocks (of foodgrains) to plug shortages in supply; and (c) To increase production.

To stimulate production price incentives can be effective only if they are deemed remunerative. Though the procurement prices of foodgrains have been raised from year to year, yet the farmers have ever been dissatisfied and clamouring for "cost plus" level of procurement price.

In the current year, the Union government has jacked up the procurement price of wheat, rice and other crops by an unprecedented margin. As a result, the farm incomes are estimated to go up by Rs. 4,125 crore in a year, thanks to the "kulak" formula adopted by the Centre for the computation of the procurement price.

This has triggered off a controversy as to what elements of cost of cultivation should enter into the computation of the procurement price. The two main elements are: the labour cost and the management (not entrepreneurial) cost.

The labour cost should be equal to the statutory wage rate and not the

actual wage rate is the recommendation of the Standing Advisory Committee (SAC) of the ministry of agriculture. The Commission on Agricultural Costs and Prices has taken cudgels against the high-powered SAC over the issue of valuation of labour inputs in the calculation of minimum support prices and insisted on a review of the farm pricing.

The expert committee headed by Dr. C. H. Hanumantha Rao has also disagreed with the SAC. The Rao panel divides labour input into two categories: family labour and hired labour and the latter is further divided as attached labour and casual labour. The family labour involves imputed cost which may be valued as for the attached labour. This is less than the cost for casual labour and does not exceed 10 per cent of the total cost. The family labour employed on one's own farm should be valued on the basis of the actual wage paid to the casual workers and not to the attached workers. This change will raise the wage cost substantially, resulting in a rise in the total cost.

The payment to hired labour is a direct cost and is, generally, lower than the statutory minimum wage. If the data for pricing agricultural produce consider the ruling market wage, the procurement price will be lower and the farmer's income less. If, on the contrary, the statutory minimum wage fixed by the government is enforced in which case it becomes the actual wage, then the procurement price, based on it, is higher to the benefit of the farmers and the labourer.

Making the statutory minimum wage as the basis for the evaluation of labour regardless of its enforcement has the danger that the States

may enhance it in a bid to raise the procurement price. In that event, the farmer will have less actual wage earning but will have to pay more for foodgrains etc.

The management input—by way of supervision of labour and procurement and allocation of inputs—may be valued at ten per cent of paid-out costs.

FISCAL SCENARIO

Q. Portray the recent fiscal scene of India.

Ans. The fiscal scene of India has been a matter of serious concern for several years. Both the budgetary deficits and the current account deficits have been burgeoning.

Let us take up first the budget deficits.

The Centre's budget deficit in 1989-90 touched a record level of 2.4 per cent of gross domestic product. This was due to the current expenditure exceeding the current revenue. The resultant revenue deficit has "eaten" up the capital surplus. The revenue-GDP ratio of the Centre rose to 12.3 per cent in 1989-90 from 11.1 per cent in 1985-86, whereas the revenue expenditure rose to 15.1 per cent of GDP in 1989-90 from 13.2 per cent of GDP in 1985-86.

Why did the Centre's expenditure rise faster than the revenue receipts? It is because the government chose the soft option of meeting the expenditure with borrowed funds. This is unproductive investment as it does not generate income for repayment of debts. It creates, on the other hand, the vicious circle of higher deficits, higher debt and higher interest burden.

The total internal liabilities of the Central government have increased nearly 250 per cent from Rs. 96,804

crore to Rs. 2,38,396 crore during the seventh plan period. As a proportion of GDP, the debt accumulated to 53.8 per cent from 42 per cent during the same duration and the net interest payment rose from 10 per cent of revenue receipts in 1985-86 to 16.6 per cent in 1989-90. The interest burden has affected adversely the tempo of investment and growth.

What is the present position in regard to budget deficits for 1990-91? According to the Union finance minister, the actual budget deficit for the period April-July this year stood at Rs. 11,390 crore for the corresponding period last year. It is estimated that for the current fiscal year the budget deficit would be between Rs. 7,900 crore and Rs. 8,500 crore, provided the rest of the fiscal year is "normal".

Though the expenditure on account of subsidies, interest and transfer of resources to States during the first quarter of the current fiscal year is less compared to the corresponding period last year and the revenue receipts from customs and Central excise are buoyant as compared to those of the last year, yet the budgetary deficit is not showing a decline.

The staggering extra-ordinary expenditure (estimated at Rs. 5,000 crore) on massive evacuation of some 1.10 lakh stranded Indians from the Gulf region and the increased outgo of foreign exchange on account of higher import bill of crude would upset deficit projections.

The new President of PHD Chamber of Commerce and Industry is of the view that the industrial growth in India was likely to slow down due to the alarming price situation.

A silver lining in the picture of the economy is the impressive growth in exports of about 10 to 12 per cent in volume terms, thanks to the dynamic export promotion policy. But this, too, has not materially changed the balance of payments scenario. It is because the import in-

tensity of exports has been increasing. The situation of the external sector will worsen further as the prospects of defusing the Gulf crisis look rather bleak.

The diminution in the net invisible earnings (from tourism and inward remittances etc.) has contributed to the widening of the deficits. If the present level of import intensity continues, export growth rate would have to be faster, say, 12 to 14 per cent per year in volume terms to bring down the current account deficit. Labour-intensive and agro-based industries need to be encouraged to boost export.

At the same time, the structure of imports must be changed and direct foreign investment encouraged in order to achieve improvement in the BOP position.

WITHOUT IMF LOAN

Q. Should India go to the International Monetary Fund for loans?

Ans. The controversy as to whether or not to borrow from the International Monetary Fund (IMF) dates back to the early years of the last decade when India went for SDR 5 billion loan from the Fund which was cut to SDR 3 billion in 1984 and has since been paid off. Ten years later, the country is, once again, faced with an identical, if not the worst, situation.

The debate has now been revived with the stand taken by the National Front government not to go to IMF for loans. The changing scenario in the world economy and the developing countries, including India, has obliged the policy-makers as well as politicians to do some re-thinking. Prof. Madhu Dandavate, Union finance minister, does not intend to remain trapped in the old moulds but would forcefully argue at the IMF's interim committee meeting for special accommodation by the Fund and the World Bank to the developing countries which had been badly hit by the steep rise in the prices of crude oil and petroleum products following

the Gulf crisis. India is no exception. She is faced with the situation of spending an additional amount of Rs. 3000 crore in foreign exchange on import of petrol and petroleum products during the year and this is likely to aggravate the BOP scenario. This compounded with the fact of unsustainable fiscal deficits amounting to 8 per cent of GDP makes India eligible for special adjustment.

The assessment of some noted economists is that India's debt situation is bad but it is not alarming. The percentage of India's debt to Gross National Product is the lowest in the world though in terms of total international debt India ranks fourth after Mexico, Brazil and probably Argentina. The import-GNP ratio is also the lowest and so is the export-GNP proportion. Even at that, the country's credit-rating is high and the international lending community still considers India and China as the two best bets in the Third World.

The noted economist Mrinal Datta-Chaudhuri says that if we do of our own what we would be doing by way of conditionalities of the IMF loan, the country can be saved from the humiliation of submitting to the "orders" of the Fund. He believes that there is no need for borrowing from external or internal agencies, if only we correct the overall fiscal imbalance. The options available to do this are: cutback in budgetary deficit by slashing down expenses on defence, subsidies etc. (It may be stated parenthetically that a cut of 10 per cent of the government expenditure has attracted much opposition from the Union ministries and the implementation of the proposed measure has run into stormy weather).

The IMF loan can only give the impression of a bailout which can hurt India's credit-worthiness in the international market. The loan *per se* cannot remedy the economic malaise

In principle, however, there is no objection to approach the IMF to advance a loan.

Problems of Modern Youth

"We cannot always build the future for our youth, but we can build our youth for the future."

— Franklin D. Roosevelt.

East or West, North or South, youth everywhere under the Sun, is in a state of restlessness and revolt. It was so in the past and it shall be so in future as well, howsoever glamorous and glittering the social fabric might become and howsoever secure and stable they might feel under the new dispensation. The young have never rested on their past laurels nor have they felt contented with their present possibilities. The chords of their impulses, instincts and intuitions are always vocal and vibrant. No doubt the problems of youth in different parts of the world under different socio-political systems differ in contours and contents. But one thing is almost certain that the modern youth is up against problems, the like of which did not exist in the past. 'Youth in turmoil', 'Unrest among youth', 'Youth in revolt', 'Angry young man'— these epithets are not just literary coinage or journalistic flourishes, but a vociferous voice of protest of vast segments of populations that have seen and suffered the all-round erosion of values and the wreckage of their dreams.

The youth, by and large, is more anxious and concerned about its future than how the present treats them. It was due to their fears and apprehensions about their uncertain future that they rose in revolt against the implementation of Mandal Commission Report by the Central Government. Their protests were not only persistent but heart-rending as well. Unknown and never tried before in North India, the attempts at self-immolation by some agitated youth, fully brought out the intensity

of their anger and anguish against a decision, which they thought would seal their future and make them irrelevant and ineligible for any future jobs and bread-earning avenues. In a country like India where the problem of educated unemployment is already nerve-breaking, the night-mares unleashed by the report completely shook the youth and in no time they were up in arms against the establishment.

Having been influenced by the philosophies of 'individualism' and 'existentialism', the urban youth is in a state of defiance against the old order, whether that order comes from the 'elderly generation' or 'the powers-that-be'. If they find themselves in a state of 'alienation or estrangement' in the present set-up, the fault lies as much with their socio-economic milieu as with the education system. Deprived of the opportunity to develop intellectually, many suffer from the problem of subjective isolation and self-estrangement. Among red-tapism and bureaucratic control over the strings of both private and public sectors, the cream of the country finds itself uncared and un-solicited for. It is under these trying and turbulent circumstances that the best brain of the country starts draining out.

The problem of 'brain-drain', unlike other problems that the youth is called upon to face, is both grim and serious. A recent study conducted by the New Delhi-based Centre for Planning, Research and Action, says that India has lost \$13 billion to the developed countries through the 'brain-drain'. Those Indian doctors, engineers, scientists and other specialists, who have gone abroad and have spent the best part of their lives there, without having been naturalised,

are still moving headlong towards shedding their native skins. They dream big and in the process of realising their dreams, abandon generations of tradition, morality and inhibition in one single move. Not only this, they remain aliens in a land which accepts their services and expertise for a price but refuses to confer on them an identity and entity with the soil... What an irony! While in India these young men and women failed to find suitable jobs and now while they are in other lands, they are failing to preserve their Indian identity.

Those who succeed in finding jobs or some means of subsistence in India, do not find life a sweet-song or a care-free comfort. A host of problems keep staring them in their faces— inadequate houses, transport and sewerage; poor medical and recreational facilities; neurotic noise pollution, shortages, dust and smoke; crimes and ever-expanding slums and what not. The most creative and colourful period of their lives is consumed and swallowed by activities most profane and abject in the ever-exploding towns and cities. If T.S. Eliot's Prufrock measured his life by counting the sips of coffee cups, the modern youth in India measures his life by standing in queues, jostling and pushing in buses and finally by removing the grey hair from his head. His problems are social, economic and psycho-emotive but there is none around who can share his sad and solitary existence. Compounded with his lonely state of life, the urban youth, have remained immune to the profundity of spiritual heritage of the land, mysticism, the philosophy of Vedas and Upanishadas and teachings from their respective religions, right from their formative years in schools, colleges and Universities. Fed on scientific data and attuned to

economic, political and social theories, the victim finds himself rudderless and utterly helpless when caught in the tempests of some personal crisis or jolted by some inexplicable tragedy. Even the telecast of two great epics on the television has failed to change his outlook because the symbolic and spiritual import of these epics have not penetrated through the thick layers of 'rationalism', 'materialism', 'nihilism', etc, which like crumbs, he picks up from here and there and then flourishes them as props of his pseudo-scholarship.

Disparities emanating from differences in class and social backgrounds and the acute sense of these disparities lead to the accumulation of tensions, which have an explosive potential. The 'angry young man' becomes angrier as he joins the army of job-seekers and is no more prepared to adapt the level of his aspirations to the prevailing realities. In most cases he ends up like 'a round peg in a square hole and vice-versa'.

The rural youth who comes to towns and cities in large numbers are for the first time freed from the cramping controls of traditional institutions, like the joint family, caste and village etc. The freedom gained and the energy released thereby does not find satisfying outlets in the urban areas which present new problems of adjustment and abound in unwholesome excitements and distractions. The inadequate food and residential arrangements, the overcrowding in educational institutions, the psychological tension and insecurity generated by the more competitive, individualistic and impersonal environment coupled with the uncertainties of future employment result in inhibited socialisation. Despite their outnumbering the urban youth, the opportunities available to the rural lot are qualitatively different. This reflects the inequalities that have come to divide the educated and 'somewhat affluent' urban and the unlettered and the underprivileged rural people in the

country. The deteriorating economic conditions of the villages and the more extensive development-cum-job opportunities of cities is the primary cause of youth migrating from the countryside to the slums and squalor of cities. This influx signifies a kind of 'brain drain' towards the cities and calls for an urgent and immediate programme for rural resource development and the engagement of the rural youth in the development of these areas so that the rot is halted and the problems that follow un-planned and haphazard urbanization are put under check.

Independence was once an inspiring social ideal and the struggle for independence brought to the foreground some of the finest qualities of the Indian youth. The nationalist struggle was undoubtedly associated with a moral ferment; it did throw up a leadership which had strong bonds with the people and which rose to great heights of moral courage and dedication. In the person of Gandhi, India did throw up a leader who became a symbol of Indian awakening. But Indian leadership in the period following independence has not been able to transform the challenge of national development into such an overpowering cause; the programme of planned development has not caught the imagination of the youth nor has it released spiritual ferment and energy to any appreciable extent. The fundamental causes of this weakness are socio-political; they lie in the ambivalent attitude of the leadership to the challenge of development and moral rejuvenation. The leadership's failure to inspire the youth with their ideal thinking and action has made the Indian youth either cynics or snobs, unable to cope with the day to day problems and predicaments.

One of the big failures of the Indian models of development and the State has been an inability to realise that we are dealing with a very different kind of society comprising many linguistic and ethnic groups

craving for recognition of their rights to preserve their ethnic identity and linguistic entity. Having been exploited and neglected for long, the young blood among these groups took up the cause of their communities and thus came in direct conflict and confrontation with the State authority. In recent times, many movements led by the youth, have been going on in different parts of the country and the only problem that the youth have high-lighted is their assertion and reiteration that their separate identity and cultural entity be respected and restored back to its pristine glory and grandeur. The failure in doing this, alongside the deliberate provocations coming from interested quarters, has resulted in the growth of both communal conflicts and sub-national assertions and movements that are greatly straining the authority and legitimacy of the Indian State.

In the West, the dilemma of the modern youth is born out of factors that are alien to the youth in the developing countries. If poverty, ignorance and unemployment are our curses, affluence and permissiveness are the bane of their homes, most of which are shattered as well as broken. The cult of Hippism, Drug addiction, violence, aimless murders *et al*, proves beyond doubt that mere material prosperity is not the end of all problems. The largest number of psychologists and psychiatrists flourishing in America points to the widespread enigma of neurosis-cum-mental sickness most prevalent among the youth there. In the countries of Eastern Europe, the problems of youth are that of transition from a 'closed society' to the 'open one'.

All said and done, modern youth, particularly Indian youth, can again contribute towards a big push to India's growth and progress. Thinking and dynamic elements among the youth will have to organise themselves for serious self-education before they can organise the participation of the youth in this vital, national task.

Should India Go Nuclear?

"The reply to a nuclear weapon capability of a potential hostile nation is to possess the same capability yourself."

— General V.N. Sharma,
former Chief of Indian Army

"India needed only three bombs to destroy Pakistan and we required five bombs to devastate India."

— Dr Abdul Qadeer Khan,
father of the Pakistani atomic bomb.

The two voices and assertions are unambiguous and the messages they send across the sub-continent are unequivocal. Both the statements are distinct and definite in their tone and tenor. They painfully point out and without much affectation that our reflexes, responses and reactions to the developments across the borders are candidly commensurate with the intentions and actions, covert as well as overt of our neighbour, who, unfortunately has planned and pursued policies on ill-founded fears and make-believe notions of injured-innocence. Of late an opinion, rightly or wrongly formed, has gone round that unless one acquired and possessed the capability of making nuclear weapons, there was no way of deterring one's opponent from using or threatening to use such weapons.

Ironically enough, today when the world is gradually coming out of the dark tunnel of cold-war and its nagging nightmares, Pakistan continues to feed and lead its people on disinformation and diabolic designs vis-a-vis India. Its obsessive passion for making nuclear bombs so that it could also boast of having become a 'nuclear power' is both a disconcerting as well as disturbing development, the ramifications and repercussions of which are far more ominous and odious than what they seem on the surface.

Ever since India tested its first

atomic device at Pokhran (Rajasthan) in 1974, Pakistan has been making frantic efforts to match India in nuclear capability. It has run from pillar to post to get hold of the 'nuclear-bomb' technology and in a world where everything is saleable for a price, it succeeded in acquiring the wherewithal and then onwards started its nuclear programme in a highly clandestine manner at the Kahuta Uranium enrichment plant.

Although India is still wedded and committed to using nuclear energy for peaceful purposes, she has not ruled out the possibility of going in for nuclear weapons if the needs of defence of the country so demand. Government spokesmen have reiterated India's stand on the subject more than once. Already Western and Asian officials are convinced that one of the Indian missiles with a range of upto 2500 km, could be armed with nuclear warheads if India thinks Pakistan has developed nuclear weapons or decides to seek parity with China, the only Asian country known to have a nuclear arsenal. These assessments of India's potential of rising to the occasion, like a Phoenix, speak volumes of her strength and status in this region. The Pentagon sees India having medium range and ICBM missile with nuclear warheads by the late nineties. It also concedes that India seeks a balanced relationship with both superpowers but perceives India as seeking herself as an emerging great power determined to achieve a dominant position in South Asia. Over the next ten years, the Pentagon expects Indian power-projection capabilities to improve substantially in the areas of maritime strike and naval and forward air base construction.

A recent report that the Pakistan navy is buying a nuclear-powered attack sub-marine from China, the cost

of which without weapons is estimated to be upwards of \$63 million, indicates how our neighbour is obsessed with the idea of achieving parity, if not superiority, with India so that its acquisition of the sub-marine matches India's INS "Chakra". Such instances of mis-directed and ill-conceived targets can be multiplied to the horror of all those in India and Pakistan who wish to see the two countries live in harmony and friendship. Thus in the mad race of out-stripping India, Pakistan has many friends-cum-donors in the Muslim world to dole out liberal aid in the manufacture of the 'Islamic Bombs', whereas India has to fend for itself even for its most pressing requirements. When forced by the ominous developments in our neighbourhood, India would have to take a difficult but a pragmatic decision when it becomes clear that the reports we hear in regard to development of such weapons by our neighbour are valid and true.

In the face of the Gulf crisis, Pakistan without any dilly-dally, decided to stand by America both militarily and otherwise because that decision held out a promise of the flow of more sophisticated arms for its arsenal. In this way, we are likely to confront a situation in the near future that may force us to go in for the nuclear bomb because its very possession by America, U.S.S.R. and others, has worked as a strong deterrent for those who might have been otherwise tempted to use this deadly weapon. The entire policy with regard to the use of nuclear energy for purposes other than creative, constructive and conducive to the well-being of Indian polity and its people, has been kept open by the powers-that be. Till then we have no choice but to keep our counsel to our hearts and strike when the moment for such a momentous decision is forced on us.

India's Streamlined Foreign Policy: Gains and Losses

Dramatic developments have occurred in the international arena during the past few months. Among the most notable are those in the contours of the world arena. Cumulatively, these have necessitated important modifications in India's foreign policy, as in the policies and postures of many other countries, big and small.

This Special Feature assesses the latest policy adjustments in the light of the rapid changes in the world arena and also describes the gains made and the losses suffered in the process.

I. Basic Aims of Foreign Policy

The basic aims of promoting peace all round and of building bridges, especially with our neighbours, have been pursued consistently and the requisite adjustments have been made. The net result is a streamlined policy of which timely diplomatic initiatives rightly form an essential part. Of course the national interest has been the supreme consideration, as is the case with the foreign policies of other governments.

After all, no country can function in a vacuum. To achieve anything it has to take the rest of the world into account and then decide upon its course of action. Besides, a foreign policy is not merely a declaration of fine principles, nor is it a directive to others on how to conduct international relations. It is conditioned by the country's own interests and by its inherent strength. A weak country cannot pursue a strong foreign policy.

In the process of streamlining the country's policy, the policy of non-alignment, now widely considered to be out of date and impracticable, has to be revised despite its traditional roots and the country's past commit-

ments.

Our foreign policy has the inevitable economic content too. Hence the new stress on establishing close links with the European Economic Community (E.E.C.).

II. Crisis in NAM

The basic aims and parameters of India's foreign policy were outlined by Jawaharlal Nehru thus: "We propose, as far as possible, to keep away from the power politics of groups aligned against one another, which have led in the past to world wars and which may again lead to disaster on an even vaster scale. We believe that peace and freedom are indivisible and the denial of freedom anywhere must endanger freedom elsewhere and lead to conflict and war. The world, in spite of its rivalries, hatreds and inner conflicts, moves inevitably towards closer collaboration. It is for this one world that free India will work, a world in which there is the free cooperation of free peoples and no class or group exploits another."

The basic objectives of Indian foreign policy did not undergo any change even after the death of Nehru and the assassination of Mrs Indira Gandhi. Mr Rajiv Gandhi reiterated India's commitment to the basic approach and principles of the foreign policy bequeathed by Jawaharlal Nehru and Indira Gandhi. He affirmed: "We have always believed in working for peace. Our policy is to be friends with all countries on the basis of reciprocity and mutual benefit." India's commitment to non-alignment and a new economic order based on justice, equality and mutual cooperation is unshakable. This means a total dedication to the twin issues of peace and development.

Change in situation: But there has been a radical change in situation in the past five years or so. Unexpected changes have been sweeping the world. The power blocs have faded away, new friendships have been forged; former rivals have become comrades. Leaders of non-aligned countries themselves are in a state of doubt about their future. They seem to have realised, as was evident at the 101-nation NAM group's Ministerial-level coordinating Bureau meeting held at the U.N. headquarters on April 29 this year, after a review of political and economic developments that the current important and historical processes are fraught with much uncertainty for non-aligned countries. The group felt, however, that relaxation of tension in some areas of the world notwithstanding, the policy of force, intervention and pressure is still present in many trouble-spots and potential theatres of conflict.

The bureau, also addressed by External Affairs Minister I.K. Gujral, said in a statement that positive consequences of these developments were not yet echoed everywhere. Meeting under Yugoslav chairmanship, the bureau voiced satisfaction over Namibia's independence and welcomed Chile's participation in the movement. UN Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar stressed the movement's irreplaceable role and significance and urged its active involvement in helping resolve outstanding international problems.

The participants confirmed the validity of the Belgrade summit conclusions and decisions and stressed that they remain the basic guidelines for the movement in its quest for answers to major challenges of our

time. The statement said that "current important and historical processes under way, marked by the overcoming of confrontation with an orientation to dialogue, fully confirmed the validity of the basic principles and goals of the policy of non-alignment."

Many people question these assertions and feel convinced that NAM is outdated and must now change. It must be removed from its high pedestal.

Three years ago, Col Gaddafi expressed bitter opposition to NAM and deplored the pretensions and posturings of the movement. He contended that it had become a kind of shibboleth, providing occasions for stirring resolutions, the obligatory bashing of imperialism (now virtually dead) and the Cold War (now ended), the rhetoric of world peace and much moralising and use of platitudes. It had become a part of fiction.

Footnote in post-war history: With the exception of Jawaharlal Nehru, all NAM leaders are now virtually forgotten and some have even been disowned by their countrymen. Even Marshal Tito has suffered a change of status; on May 4, 1990, the legendary Yugoslav hero's death anniversary, there were demands for removing his portraits and statues from public places!

At a recent unpublicised meeting, India's Foreign Minister said that it was time, perhaps, to take another look at our traditional view on non-alignment. "We in India may be in the pre-contemplative stage of reassessing policies we have stood by for four decades but thoughts in the capitalist West on the subject of non-alignment are far ahead of our thinking. In the West where the "market" is the prime mover in the formulation of foreign policies, it is recognised that well before the end of the 20th century, there may be only three non-aligned nations in the world, China, India and Soviet Union. The others would have been gathered with ease or with some difficulty by the regional economic groupings into which the world is now being split."

This has little, if anything, to do with ideology; India will continue to fit into the democratic framework, however awkwardly; the Chinese are unlikely to deviate from hardline socialism; the Soviet Union may be compelled to move in the direction of political decentralisation on the confederal model. India, China and the Soviet Union may find no common ideological ground but their interests will converge inasmuch as these three will be the 'left-outs' in the economic map of the world which is being redrawn in Washington, Brussels, Tokyo, and perhaps in Canberra as well. Brazil is the only upcoming economic power whose future is somewhat uncertain but the prospects of its gravitating towards its regional economic pole are rated as good in Wall Street.

Millions of people in India, China and the Soviet Union, representing 50 per cent of mankind and spread over some 30 per cent of the global land area, in contiguous proximity, will find themselves unattached, unanchored or non-aligned to any of the world economic blocs. In the 1980s NAM had lost its focus and, therefore, its old fervour; in the 1990s the non-aligned movement of the founding fathers will have lost all except a place as a footnote in the post-war history of the world. It is for this reason that Mr Gujral quietly suggested a second look at our traditional commitment to NAM. So there is urgent need of re-defining our goals in a new world.

India-Iraq want NAM change: In June this year, many weeks before the Gulf crisis erupted, India and Iraq urged a new thrust for the non-aligned movement in the light of changes in the Soviet Union-US relations and the altogether new situation in Europe. During the official level talks in Baghdad, the Indian Minister for External Affairs and his Iraqi counterpart, Mr Tariq Aziz, welcomed these changes as wholly conducive to world peace.

They were of the view that the Super Power detente and democratic changes in Europe and the prospect

of Europe and the prospect of European unity would have much impact on the non-aligned and other developing countries which were likely to face economic difficulties. These changes might have some negative trends, such as economic pressure by some developed nations to harm the interests of the developing countries. The two sides stressed that cooperation among developing countries should be strengthened. They felt that the non-aligned movement itself needed a new thrust.

But NAM's initiative for resolving the Gulf crisis is unlikely to succeed. Other factors are more important in this regard.

III. Gains and Losses

No international policy or diplomatic initiative can prove perfect and wholly free of some drawbacks, deficiencies and unwelcome consequences. So, India's initiatives in the arena of international diplomacy in 1990, her responses to the complex challenges and her execution of programmes for winning friends and influencing people have had mixed results. However, it is a matter of considerable satisfaction that our gains exceed the losses in terms of both prestige and concrete results.

India's relations with Nepal had become strained, following vexed controversies, mostly over the Trade and Transit Treaty which had expired in March, 1989, and in respect of which the Union Government under Mr Rajiv Gandhi's leadership badly bungled. New Delhi's intentions have throughout been unquestionable. The allegations of this country trying to exercise "overlordship" or to become a regional super power are baseless.

Fortunately, the changed democratic set-up in Kathmandu, the phasing out of the King's autocratic set-up, the pro-democracy upsurge, the nationalist postures of the new Nepali Congress coalition with Mr K.P. Bhattarai as Prime Minister (which currently heads the new regime) have facilitated the elimina-

tion of animosities and the suspicions of each other's intentions.

The Nepali Congress has returned to power after remaining in political wilderness for 30 years. It has to redefine Nepal's foreign policy objectives in the context of the many changes that have taken place in the regional and global situation during the past three decades. In particular, it had to draw up a new framework for restructuring relations with India—its most important neighbour.

The security aspect has naturally dominated the recent discussions in Kathmandu and New Delhi. India's Minister for External Affairs rightly felt, during his successful efforts to eliminate the intense suspicions and distrust in Kathmandu, that if there is an understanding on security issues, all others can be readily settled in a spirit of mutual accommodation. The security perspective, for instance, has an important bearing on such questions as the maintenance of an open border and the treatment accorded to one country's nationals resident in the other. It became obvious that New Delhi's response to Nepal's wishes on economic matters will be far more sympathetic if Kathmandu is seen to be helpful on security issues concerning India.

The security relationship became a live issue following Nepal's recent overland imports of weapons from China, including infantry weapons and anti-aircraft guns. Supplies under the deal violate, in the Indian view, the understandings incorporated in the 1950 India-Nepal Peace and Friendship Treaty and a subsequent agreement of 1965 signed by officials of the two countries. But Nepal maintains that the 1950 proviso, as amplified in letters exchanged along with it, cover only arms imported through India, while New Delhi contends that the 1965 arrangement was repudiated by Kathmandu the same year.

A large military mission was set up in Kathmandu in answer to the King's request. But India's role was gradually diminished and was finally terminated by 1969 when Kathmandu

requested the withdrawal of the Indian military advisory group as well as the "wireless operators" stationed at Nepali posts along the Tibetan border, ostensibly to assist in maintaining communication. Apart from the supply of arms to meet any Nepali requests and the provision of *ad hoc* training facilities, the "special relationship" in the security sphere came to an end.

New Delhi has to reconcile Nepal's legitimate desire to remain non-aligned as between its two giant neighbours with India's security sensitivities. On the whole, this has been done quite successfully over the years through tacit 'give and take'. This is why the relationship has remained reasonably stable except for occasional, and mercifully temporary, strains.

The arms deal with China seems to have been undertaken for two reasons. In the wake of New Delhi sending in its air force to drop food over Jaffna (Sri Lanka) in 1987 without prior consultation with Colombo, the deal was interpreted as a bid to explore alternative security options. It may also be noted that the palace coterie, which put through the deal in great secrecy, wanted the monarch to gain credit for asserting Nepal's sovereign rights.

Though the coterie has now been eclipsed, it will be extremely difficult for the new government to back down on the sovereignty issue and its right to ensure its security without excessive reliance on India. Mr I.K. Gujral's three-day visit to Kathmandu early in August this year proved fruitful and helped to remove several pinpricks. India agreed to a Nepalese request to open three more transit points for non-Indian tourists along the border with U.P.

Nepal has been asked to meet some of India's concerns: protection of the environment, harnessing of water resources of the common rivers, end Kathmandu's reluctance in cooperating in vital areas. Mr Gujral made it clear that India and Nepal could develop full-fledged economic ties because of the advanced stage of

development and size of the Indian economy.

The restoration of friendly relations with Nepal, the resumption of trade ties (though on a limited scale yet) and the implicit exclusion of other countries from "fishing" in Nepal for economic and political gains, have been notable gains in 1990.

By maintaining its close ties with Afghanistan, especially with President Najibullah (he visited New Delhi at the end of August, 1990). India has further consolidated its gains *vis-a-vis* Kabul.

In a joint statement the two countries said it was imperative for all States to observe the principles of peaceful co-existence and eschew sustenance and support to secessionist and terrorist activities. Both countries called for immediate and full implementation of the Geneva accords.

Despite earlier forebodings, India's calculations about Dr Najibullah's hold over the ruling party in Afghanistan have proved correct. On the other hand, the hopes of the U.S. and Pakistan about Dr Najibullah's early downfall have been dashed.

Similarly, as a result of policy modifications the Government of India has regained much of the lost goodwill in Sri Lanka.

IV. Pakistan

Regrettably, there have been setbacks in Indo-Pakistan relations. After the initial fervour and pro-India sentiments expressed by Ms Benazir Bhutto during the early months of her brief period of Prime Ministership, strains developed between the two countries. These were due to the hostile postures of the fundamentalists and the highly disconcerting developments in Kashmir Valley for which Pakistan was largely responsible. It deliberately promoted subversive and terrorist activities in the Valley.

India has throughout favoured the establishment of a strong, stable, democratic Pakistan. On August 8, 1990, New Delhi expressed surprise

at the abrupt dismissal of Ms Benazir Bhutto from Prime Ministership but affirmed that it would continue to build a relationship of cooperation with Pakistan despite "severe provocations", including support for terrorism and subversion.

In a statement to Parliament, External Affairs Minister I.K. Gujral said developments in Pakistan were the internal affair of that country, but experience showed that "shocks" of this nature anywhere put democracy under severe strain. Noting that fresh elections had been announced for October 24, he said, "We sincerely hope that there will be no discontinuity or setback to the democratic process in Pakistan and that the people's will would prevail." He believed that friendly ties between the two countries would contribute to peace and stability in the region. India, he said, had always worked towards building a relationship of cooperation and good neighbourliness with Pakistan.

No change in Pak policy: In this connection, Islamabad's lack of positive response to India's cordial offers need to be noted. On August 3, the new Caretaker Government declared that there would be no shift in Pakistan's foreign policy and it would continue to accord top priority for strengthening relations with Islamic States.

Briefing Ambassadors and High Commissioners at the Foreign Office in Islamabad, the Pakistan Foreign Secretary, Mr Tanvir Ahmad Khan, said the Interim Government would endeavour to expand and nurture strong linkages with Western countries. Steps would be taken to beef up good neighbourly relations among SAARC countries.

The Pakistan Government, he affirmed attached importance to its relations with China since it had a bearing on Pakistan's territorial integrity and sovereignty. He also spoke of improving ties with Japan, Iran, Saudi Arabia, Indonesia and Malaysia, among other countries. Perhaps the absence of any specific reference to India was deliberate. In fact many opposition political groups have been playing up

the anti-India card to secure the voters' support.

As for Bangladesh, New Delhi's ties have improved. The Indian Foreign Minister's trip to Dhaka was fruitful; the talks helped to remove several causes of misunderstanding. The prospects of a settlement of the river waters issue are bright; at any rate the bickerings have become an old story.

V. India and China

Since the regime of Mr Rajiv Gandhi, India's policy towards China has been far more realistic and down to earth than in the earlier period following the blatant aggression of the Chinese against India in 1962. Although the national commitment to recover every inch of Indian territory seized by the Chinese remains, the Chinese Government's unmistakable reluctance not to give up its gains has necessitated calm reflections on what is possible and what is not. There is also our equally important commitment not to use force to attain our aim of getting our area back.

With a view to reaching an amicable settlement of the issue, several rounds of talks have been held between official-level delegations of the two countries, in Beijing and New Delhi alternately. But apart from agreements on marginal matters, no notable progress has been made.

The National Front Government's policy is to continue the dialogue, maintain as cordial an atmosphere as possible and seek such gains as are attainable through across-the-table negotiations with tough bargainers. Fortunately, the India-China border has, on the whole, remained peaceful since 1987 when there were some incidents. For quite some time, the territorial dispute is unlikely to be resolved.

The latest round of India-China talks was held at the end of August this year. The Joint Working Group's meeting to establish channels of communication between commanders of the forces deployed on the border was described as "another step forward" in some respects. A change

in the patrolling pattern according to an agreed basis will not cause alarm, as it did on some earlier occasions. A competitive build-up of troops is thus expected to be avoided, and of course there will be no repetition of the 1962 invasion. Now the communication gap has been closed and the various confidence-building measures will be all to the good. The Working Group made no progress on the border issue, nor was it expected.

It is however claimed that an effort has begun to establish the basis for a solution in "a sincere and forward-looking manner". In any case, the goodwill established during Mr Rajiv Gandhi's goodwill visit to Beijing in December, 1988, has not been eroded. Public opinion has to be adequately prepared in both countries if a give-and-take accord on territory is to be reached. This will undeniably take many years; to millions of people it is a question of national prestige and honour. No wonder other issues are discussed, not the territorial one. Realities on the ground are quite hard.

VI. India and Sri Lanka

The Sri Lanka adventure was in many ways India's worst and costliest foreign policy blunder in recent years. Mr V.P. Singh felt convinced that the Indian Government made a mistake in sending the IPKF to the island republic. India has suffered in prestige and also in terms of army personnel killed and the amount of expenditure incurred in the military operations there. The hasty Rajiv Gandhi-Jayewardene accord of July, 1985, misfired.

Unexpected developments have taken place in Sri Lanka in recent months. President Premadasa, badly cornered and in a desperate bid to win over the JVP militants who did havoc to the Sinhalese people in south and central Lanka, expressed appreciation of India's role of mediator in the island but he said: "We want India as a peacemaker and not to interfere militarily or politically in the island. The problems of the Sinhalese and Tamils must be solved by the parties in conflict."

Mr V.P. Singh identified better relations with neighbours, notably Sri Lanka and Nepal, as one of his top priorities. President Premadasa felt confident of better ties between the two countries. Indeed a new phase in the relationship has begun. There is little doubt that the prolonged presence of the Indian army on Sri Lanka soil soured the relations between the two countries as never before. The menace created by JVP extremists was however not India's fault.

IPKF and LTTE (Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam) were virtually at war. But early in December, 1989, after the National Front Government took office, LTTE leaders were keen to remove the "misconception" that their organisation was hostile to India. LTTE, they said, wanted to re-establish friendly ties with India. But they cautioned that the New Delhi bureaucrats must not be allowed to handle "our future relationship". The Government in New Delhi, they felt, should ensure that new people "understand and accommodate us". The Sri Lankan spokesmen blame Indian officials for not completing the IPKF's pull-out by December, 1989, as they had promised earlier. India's External Affairs Minister committed his Government to another deadline March 31, 1990. The Union Government won Sri Lanka's goodwill by withdrawing all its forces even before the deadline.

India's new Sri Lanka policy ended the tensions, removed the misapprehensions about this country's intentions. The distinct improvement in ties with Sri Lanka is a notable gain of our streamlined foreign policy.

VII. Conclusions

This is a decade in which Asia will be on the verge of becoming one of the world's major power houses. The conventional way in which homage continues to be paid to non-alignment means that many of us remain prisoners of an outmoded concept and way of looking at things. When Mr Moynihan, a former American Ambassador to India, ful-

minated against NAM the other day, declaring it to be "an ally of the Soviet Union and a platform for insulting the United States", he was being old-fashioned. In justifying non-alignment today, India is committing the same mistake.

India should not remain inward looking and live in yesterday's world but move with the times. Foreign experts feel we must not confine ourselves to the South Asia region but move beyond it and play a more significant role.

To most of the world, particularly in Europe, the arguments that still hold sway in the Indian political set-up are amusing as well as tragic. It is recognised that in a country in which nearly 40 per cent of the people live below the poverty line, the politicians' response and vocabulary will differ from those from the developed world. But there remains a measure of incomprehension in Europe about the Indian politicians' ability to continue to live in yesterday's world when Europe is poised on the most exciting phase of its history in 50 years.

Actually, NAM is no longer a credible definition of this country's foreign policy. With the National Front Government's preoccupations with complex domestic problems (including the question of political survival) being what they are, the time-span New Delhi can devote to the broader issues of foreign policy is limited. But the country will have to pay a heavy price in isolating itself from the wider world at a time of momentous changes.

With the U.S.A. India's relations have improved distinctly partly as a sequel to international developments and the gradual erosion of the pro-Pakistan bias. Washington has naturally welcomed India's condemnation of Iraq's aggression against Kuwait. It therefore favours larger World Bank and IMF assistance to India to help the latter to tide over the economic hardships caused by the Gulf crisis.

Habitual critics in the U.S. have however expressed displeasure with what they describe as "muted condemnation of Iraq by India". They seem to

be happier with Pakistan's stand. Tough decisions are soon to be made by the U.S. about Pakistan. India is watching the situation anxiously. The question of U.S. aid finally sanctioned for Pakistan will inevitably affect the peace and stability of the Indian sub-continent. Another point of Indo-U.S. differences relates to the increasing militarisation of the Indian Ocean region as a result of the Gulf crisis. For this the U.S. is responsible. Scores of its ships are currently in the seas for Iraq's naval blockade and military reasons.

Developments in the Soviet Union mean that the energies of the Kremlin will be increasingly devoted to the complex problems of evolving a new political structure and finding a basis for resolving its mind-boggling economic problems. As a consequence, the Soviet Union's role has become, and will increasingly become, less world oriented.

The reunification of the two Germanies means that the new Germany will become even more of a powerhouse in an increasingly integrated European Economic Community. The new EEC and the gradual integration of the Eastern and Central European countries are likely to change the political and economic contours of the European map.

Even more significant (though many people may not admit it), the Soviet's role in respect of Indian affairs will gradually decrease. If the Soviet Union is no longer our major prop, what would become of our position in international relations? Moscow and Washington are now virtual allies. India may no longer enjoy Soviet support. That would radically alter India's position. After all, the Soviet Union's focus of attention has shifted. It has its own internal challenges to meet, and like the U.S.A. it does not require satellites and proteges in distant lands any more—at any rate not so urgently. The Government of India has therefore to take the new realities fully into consideration and has either to rely on its own strength or forge other friendships, even by partially sacrificing its ideology—if necessary.

Gulf Crisis Nearing Flash-point

With both the principal parties determined to stick to their respective stand—the U.S.A. all set to discipline Iraq's President and Saddam Hussein firm on retaining his hold over Kuwait, the highly explosive conflict in the Gulf has almost reached a flash-point. If there is war, it will certainly have serious consequences for the entire world. India would probably be among the worst sufferers in certain ways, especially in the economic arena.

Since August 2, 1990, when Iraq swallowed Kuwait, violating the latter country's sovereignty and defying the international community, the world has been on the edge of a precipice. There has been a realignment of political forces, with the majority of Western countries condemning Iraq's blatant aggression and several Muslim countries openly or quietly backing Iraq against U.S. threats of attack. President Saddam Hussein has repeatedly declared that the annexation of Kuwait is "eternal and irrevocable". He has also linked Iraqi pull-out from Kuwait with the demand for Israeli withdrawal from occupied Arab areas.

After several weeks of stalemate and uncertainty, the U.S. has stepped up signals for an early war against Iraq, without waiting for the U.N. sanctions to have a compelling effect so as to make it withdraw its forces from Kuwait. The U.N. Security Council resolutions, passed in quick succession in a bid to resolve the crisis, have appropriately been described as "expressions of world conscience". For once, the U.S. goals coincide with those of the Soviet Union, China and other major countries.

The U.N. resolutions require Iraq to pull out its occupation forces from Kuwait, imposing an almost total economic blockade against it

and authorising member-countries having forces in the region to enforce the decisions. On September 21 the five permanent members of the Council called for a stiff air embargo against Iraq amounting to a blockade. Immense dislocation is an inevitable sequel to these measures.

President Saddam Hussein, obsessed with his military might (Iraq is currently the most powerful nation in West Asia), has declared that his country can go on fighting for years. He has boosted his occupation force to about 360,000.

While the U.S. is making preparations for a military showdown, Iraq has threatened to destroy all oilfields in the Gulf if it is attacked.

U.S. Objectives: President Bush made it clear that he would like to see Mr Saddam Hussein removed from power but for the present the U.S. administration's diplomatic plan in the Gulf rests on the modest goal of forcing him to quit Kuwait. Then the U.S. and its allies could probably contain Mr Hussein and neutralise him as a regional power without toppling him.

Some conservative commentators have questioned the value of sending U.S. troops into Saudi Arabia in the first place, worrying that it is bad policy as well as, bad politics, and sounding the alarm against becoming embroiled in what they see as a potential Vietnam. The Bush strategy presupposes a prolonged, if not indefinite, U.S. military presence in the Gulf, something that risks alienating the Arabs. The U.S. favours the war option, but most of its allies advise restraint.

U.S. authorities believe Soviet-American cooperation has risen to a new level in West Asia and that this, along with the Western alliance's expansion of its military role to the area, provides security for the militarily

weak Gulf States and implies a curb on Mr Hussein. Undeniably, the new confluence of Soviet-American interests in West Asia has radically altered the strategic equation and Arab leaders can no longer count on Moscow as a counterweight to Washington. This will make it harder for Mr Hussein to attack and easier to stop him if he does. The crisis has shaken the Arab power balance. Egypt has moved to the forefront, and Syria and Iran have moved towards the Arab mainstream. But there is no guarantee that America's allies in Western Europe—to say nothing of the Soviet Union—will remain steadfast militarily over the long term or respond so quickly in the future.

Saddam calls for Fahd's ouster: In another move, the Iraqi President has asked the people of Saudi Arabia to overthrow their ruler, King Fahd Bin Abdul Aziz, and reiterated his call for waging a holy war against the American forces in the kingdom. "Iraqi children were dying because of the U.N. sanctions against Iraq for want of food and medicine", he said in a message broadcast over Iraqi radio. He contends that the UN sanctions were imposed because of the U.S. which had been backed by Israel. Referring to the U.S.-led military build up in the region, Mr Saddam Hussein said his country would not be cowed down by this. The U.S. was in for a surprise, he cautioned, if it thought that it had a superior air power, as this would not determine the outcome. War, if it took place, would be decided by ground forces and to meet such an eventuality Iraq had more than five million volunteers in addition to a regular army of one million. Saddam's speech was addressed largely to Arabs and Muslim believers outside Iraq, whom he exhorted to support his struggle "to save humanity from unjust powers".

Iraq to Hit back: President Sad-

dam Hussein warned the West on Sept 23 that he would strike Israel and oilfields in West Asia if Iraq felt its people were being stifled. It demanded immediate withdrawal of the U.S.-led multinational forces deployed in the Gulf and urged unity of the Arab nations.

Bangladesh, Pakistan, Malaysia, Indonesia, Maldives and Brunei drafted a plan for a peaceful solution to the problem. Jordanian King Hussein appealed to Americans to back a negotiated solution after Saudi Arabia cut off oil supplies to the struggling kingdom in apparent punishment for its support to Iraq.

Intensive contacts have been made to convene a summit of five Arab heads of State—King Hasan of Morocco, King Fahd of Saudi Arabia, Iraqi President Saddam Hussein, the Algerian President, Mr Benjedid and King Hussein of Jordan—to discuss an Arab solution to the Gulf crisis.

Two other developments are: one, the Secretary-General of the Gulf Cooperation Council has warned that Palestinians are no longer welcome in the Gulf States following the pro-Iraqi stand of the PLO; and two, the Soviet Defence Minister has ruled out Soviet military interference in the Gulf crisis.

But oil-rich Nigeria announced it would participate in U.N. sanctions against Iraq despite Muslim fundamentalist protests against the U.S. military presence in the Gulf. Iraq seized all foreign assets from countries honouring the trade embargo against it. Nine West European countries endorsed the U.N. air blockade against Iraq, and Argentina joined the multinational flotilla enforcing the naval blockade.

Iraq also issued a fresh warning of attacking Western interests throughout the world in the event of aggression launched against it by the foreign military forces now present in the Gulf. The warning was presumably in reaction to the remarks made by the sacked U.S. Air Force Chief, Gen Mike Dugan, that the best policy in the event of a war would be to bombard the Iraqi capital, Baghdad. Iraq

warned that the U.S. was mistaken if it thought the Iraqis would remain idle while their cities were attacked.

At the heart of Iraq's disputes with Kuwait over oil, money and boundaries, lies a huge oil formation some 10,200 feet below the desert sands. One of the world's largest oil reservoirs, the Rumaila field runs across the Iraq-Kuwait border, and the bulk of the 50-mile long formation lies under Iraq.

Yet much of the oil produced from Rumaila in the last decade was pumped by the Kuwaitis who could eventually, in theory, bring up oil from the entire Rumaila pool. In Iraq's view, Kuwait has been stealing its oil, and the Rumaila field is a rich prize, estimated by some U.S. oil experts to still contain more than 30 billion barrels. Of a total of 615 wells in Iraq, 225 were in the Rumaila field.

U.S. Likely to win: In respect of air and military strength, the U.S. enjoys a distinct superiority, so if there is a war, Iraq is likely to be defeated. But Saddam Hussein is a determined adamant type and may carry out the threats he has given of bombing W. Asian oil-fields. Such an attack would set the region on fire.

The USA is bringing all kinds of psychological pressure on Iraq as part of its overall strategy.

It is mounting three specific military threats at this time; the naval blockade, an implicit threat to attack Iraqi forces in Kuwait and air strikes on vital Iraqi targets, including possible attempts to decapitate the Iraqi leadership by a raid like the Tripoli air attack on Gaddafi.

The third threat is the easiest for the USA to mount but is fraught with the most serious political difficulties. The USA is building up an aerial armada of some 12 tactical fighter wing equivalents (seven air force, four navy and one marine) in the region. This totals some 900 high performance fighters and bombers. In conjunction with long-range B-52 strikes, this armada could destroy Iraqi targets with great speed.

The Iraqis, anticipating such an offensive, are putting Western

hostages at likely target points. Also, the outcry in the Third World would involve considerable political cost to the USA. The great disparity between Iraq and the USA in terms of numbers has no relevance in an all-out shooting war. Iraq may have 55 divisions, but in an open desert battlefield its armour will fall victim to US air power. Neither the Iraqi air force, nor the army's ground-based air defence, can prevent the USA from ripping apart Iraqi ground forces in quick order.

Key Role for Iran: It appears from the latest turn of events in the international arena that Iran would play a key role in resolving the Gulf crisis. It has already derived distinct diplomatic benefits from recent developments, notably diplomatic recognition from a substantial section of the international community; it has also made up with Britain after having resumed ties with Iraq.

However, Iraq's expectations that Iran would help it in checking the effect of UN sanctions have been belied. Events have moved fast in the region. President Assad of Syria visited Teheran and held talks with Iranian leaders. Actually, Syria and Iran have had cordial relations for many years, though in the current crisis Syria has backed the U.S.A. and Saudi Arabia. Both Iran and Syria have condemned Iraq's annexation of Kuwait. They have quietly agreed to protect Iran's oil and other interests. Like some other West Asian countries, Iran and Syria do not favour the possible emergence of Iraq as a kind of regional super-power.

It is worth noting that President Rafsanjani of Iran has been doing his best to mend fences with the West. The religious edict ordering assassination of Salman Rushdie (who annoyed the Muslim world through his book "Satanic Verses") virtually stands withdrawn. Iraq naturally feels worried over its old, vanquished rival's recent successes in diplomacy; probably, President Saddam Hussein realises that his efforts to end the tensions with Iran had only a temporary effect because Iran has gained much more from the exercise than Iraq.

Corruption in Judiciary

In recent months serious allegations of corruption and other irregularities have been made against judges, both senior and junior. If the judiciary, in the independence of which the people have implicit confidence, also loses credibility, what would be left of the Indian political structure? This feature presents a dispassionate assessment of the new and highly damaging taint on the judicial set-up.

I. Importance of Judiciary

In every country the judiciary comprises the third and in many ways the most important organ of the governmental machinery. The executive and the legislature of course have a vital role to play in the multi-faceted task of governance, but in a federal set-up, such as India's, it is the judiciary that holds the balance. Lord Blyca, the famous British jurist and constitutional expert, rightly commented that there is no better test of the excellence of a government than the efficiency of the judicial system.

The judiciary is in fact the guardian of the people's rights; it protects these rights from encroachments by the Government, public bodies and individuals. The liberty of the people, so vital in a democracy, gets endangered if there is no totally independent judiciary commanding the highest conceivable degree of credibility. If the judges are not men of integrity and sound moral character, public confidence in the judiciary cannot be ensured.

It is this public trust and credibility that is now threatened as a result of certain improprieties, indiscretions, and even acts of direct and indirect corruption, by certain judges. No one, least of all the framers of India's carefully devised Constitution, envisaged a situation in which the judiciary would get exposed to charges of corruption. The

recent acts of corruption by certain Indian judges deserve censure not only by their colleagues here and abroad but also by all people everywhere who cherish high moral principles and the values on which our polity is supposed to be based.

II. Threat of Collapse

Until recently, talk of the threat of collapse of the judicial system was linked with the unbearable workload of the judges at various levels, caused by the frightening backlog of cases, together with the ceaseless flow of new ones. In November, 1989, Mr E.S. Venkataramiah, former Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, cautioned that the country's judicial system is "paralysed and there is bound to be a catastrophe in about a year's time".

The delays in getting justice from the courts are proverbial. Even four decades after Independence there is no sign of the speedy, inexpensive justice which the Founding Fathers of the Republic and other leaders envisaged. Some people even fear that a time may come when disputes will be settled through extra-judicial means, as has happened in certain areas of Bihar.

Among the causes of the scandalous delay are the complicated court procedures, the needlessly lengthy and repetitive arguments given by lawyers, the repeated adjournments (generally sought by the lawyers themselves in order to enhance their incomes), the heavy pressure of work necessitating long intervals between hearings, the facility of lodging appeals to higher courts, the inadequate number of judges and the numerous holidays. Two lakh fresh cases are filed in the various courts each year while the disposal rate does not exceed 90,000. The workload of all courts—subordinate, High or Supreme—is doubling

every seven years.

The Supreme Court alone now has 204,000 cases pending before it. The number of such cases in different High Courts is more than 1.6 million. Again, more than 10 million cases are awaiting disposal in the lower courts.

The former Chief Justice of India, Mr P.N. Bhagwati, expressed anguish over the failure of the judicial system to meet the needs and expectations of the public for justice and redress in private disputes or against the Government. Mr Desai, the then chairman of the Law Commission, was even more outspoken in describing the present judicial system as "anti-people, anti-justice and a fraud on the litigants". It was only after the strong censure of the system that the Union Government decided to fill all the vacancies of judges. At least one deficiency has thus been made up.

III. Charges of Corruption

All members of the judiciary, especially judges of the High Court, are expected to be scrupulously honest and men of integrity. Unfortunately, several senior judges of the Bombay High Court have become controversial figures. There have been boycotts of certain courts for weeks together—an event without precedent.

Judicial independence has been enshrined in the Constitution under Article 124. A judge's salary or other service conditions cannot be altered to his disadvantage. He cannot be removed from office save through the arduous process of impeachment which requires approval of a two-thirds majority of each House of Parliament. To get this is indeed a difficult task. This independence has enabled the Courts to invalidate several unconstitutional laws passed by the legislatures affecting the rights and liberties of the citizens or the Press. Judicial independence, how-

ever, should not go to the extent of making judges irresponsible or unconcerned about the proper performance of their duties and their accountability for their actions and indulging in graft.

A couple of highly regrettable cases may be quoted in support of the contention. A judge of the Bombay High Court reported to the Chief Justice of the High Court that Rs 1.5 lakh were found in the bathroom of a fellow judge "last year". Two Bar Associations in Bombay passed no-confidence resolutions against four Judges of the Bombay High Court, alleging corrupt practices, what are things coming to? How can justice and fair play be assured to the litigants if judges can be easily influenced by gifts of money or other temptations? If such scandals go on increasing in number, the judicial system might be reduced to a mockery.

A Former Chief Justice of India, Mr Justice Venkataramiah, stated that out of a total of about 450 High Court Judges all over the country, as many as 90 "were out practically every evening wining and dining either at a lawyer's house or at a foreign embassy". It is understood that several Judges had their sons and close relatives practise in all the High Courts.

The former Chief Justice of India, Mr Sabyasachi Mukherji, questioned about the reported nepotism said that he had heard about them. "Bail matters never used to come to a High Court normally before. Now they do and in these matters, I have heard, some relatives of Judges are making a lot of money. Whether it is true or not has to be looked into".

Early in September this year the former Chief Justice of India, Mr Sabyasachi Mukherji, convened a joint conference of Supreme Court Judges and Chief Justices of the High Courts to discuss the question of judicial accountability as well as appointment and transfer of judges. The National Front Government recently introduced the 67th Constitution Amendment Bill to set up a National Judicial Commission which seeks to

change the method of appointment and transfer of judges. The conference came to a broad consensus on both the issues.

There seems to be a nexus between the sudden fall in the credibility of the judiciary and the increasing politicisation of the process of appointment of judges in which lobbying in the corridors of power rather than knowledge of law and character was found to be quite effective. Unless the executive sheds its power of having the final voice in judicial appointments and transfer, the situation cannot improve.

The judges conference thought if the existing system was worked in the true "spirit", it could prove more useful. To ensure that malpractices do not creep in—as they have—it wants that the Chief Justice of India's role should not be merely "consultative" as at present but it must be laid down that his "concurrence" is necessary for appointments and transfers. Also in the case of appointment of High Court Judges, it is the Chief Justice of the High Court who should recommend the name and the Chief Minister should only be consulted. In essence, it is politics and political influences that lead to miscarriage and denial of justice, and even corruption.

IV. Allegations of partiality

An eminent former Judge, Mr V.K. Krishna Iyer, focussed attention is the "kin syndrome"—the existence of relations of judges and magistrates practising in the same courts and thus commanding an advantageous position. There are at least 80 judges in the country who have either their children, nephews, daughters-in-law, sons-in-law or wives practising in the same court and sharing accommodation with them. Members of the Bar had made, complaints of "suspected partiality" and other malpractices in the courts of such judges. This "filialise" or "son stroke" or "better-half" pathology was becoming a popular syndrome.

The members of the judiciary are however on solid ground when they contend that the Press should not criticise judges conduct. On Septem-

ber 3 the country's judiciary clearly stated that the country's judiciary had decided that the media would have no justification to publicly discuss the conduct of judges of High Courts or the Supreme Court on the complaints against them by citizens, lawyers or others.

Similarly, the bar will have no justification to publicly discuss the conduct of judges. The Chief Justices and Judges have come to a consensus to set up an informal machinery within the judiciary for handling complaints. This machinery gives the entire power over such complaints to the Chief Justices of High Courts and the Chief Justice of India. The latter would decide whether a complaint "deserves to be looked into". On the basis of the facts ascertained, the Chief Justice shall take such appropriate action as may be considered proper, "keeping the interests of the judiciary as the paramount consideration".

The bar of the media would have no justification to publicly discuss such conduct and in the event of such public denigration of judges, it would be open to action under the appropriate law. All who have genuine grievances about judicial conduct would have no scope to despair in view of this procedure. The Chief Justice of India has cautioned that the "reckless uninformed public criticism by the media and the bar must end" and that the judiciary will not tolerate uninformed, reckless allegations which undermine the independence of the judiciary and affect the credibility of the institution making it difficult for it to function".

The living conditions and economic status of some judges are stated to be pathetic. But could that be any justification for indulging in corruption—the very evil the judiciary is expected to check? In this connection, the suggestion of a top anti-corruption drive expert that there should be an inter-judiciary or in-house body, which may be called "Board of Judicial Ethics", is a sound one. This board should be headed by India's Chief Justice and command public confidence.

Oil Scenario: Causes and Effects

The unprecedented invasion of Kuwait by its neighbour Iraq has sent shock waves all the world over. The third oil shock has come. Its causes and effects—the talk of the entire mankind—are featured here.

I. In perspective

Since the birth of the 13-nation cartel, OPEC—Organisation for Petroleum Exporting Countries—three decades ago the world economy has been rocked thrice by the oil price shocks in 1973, 1979 and in August this year.

The OPEC quadrupled the oil price to 31 dollar a barrel in the first instance in early seventies. As if that was not enough, the price was hiked further on the eve of the last decade. This was too heavy a burden for both the developed as well as the developing countries. While the industrialised nations started taking measures to squeeze demand for petrol and petroleum products by innovative devices to reduce energy intensity and discoveries of alternative sources of energy, the oil-importing developing countries launched schemes for indigenous oil production. Despite these gap-filling approaches, the aggregate demand curve uptrended in relation to the aggregate supply curve.

Notwithstanding the price escalation in 1973, the oil consumption continued to rise through the seventies. It touched the new high of 64.5 million barrels per day (mbd) in 1979. Two factors which contributed to this scenario were: one, low price elasticity of demand for oil; two, the end-user prices in the West did not rise as steeply as the producer prices.

With the onset of the second oil shock in 1979, however, the oil consumption declined to 59 mbd in 1985. The decline in demand was sharper in

the developed countries but moderate in the developing countries. This was so because the industrialized countries could develop alternative technologies and encourage energy conservation, while the developing countries were faced with technological constraints inhibiting energy substitution. In fact, the decline in the oil prices in mid-1980s gave a fillip to oil consumption in developing countries increasing it by 18 per cent during 1986-89. Apart from the price decline, the development policies pursued during the last decade in India encouraged oil consumption and hence the growth of the economy.

II. Production trends

What about the trends in output of oil? A few broad facts may be mentioned. The reduced profitability of oil exploration in marginal areas in the wake of price decline and less incentives for the development of alternative technologies in non-OPEC oil producing countries have provided opportunities to the OPEC countries to step-up output. In the case of the net oil importing industrial countries, the consumption-production ratio which had improved during 1973-85, declined between 1985 and 1989. The net oil importing countries improved their production-consumption ratio during 1979-85 but it dipped in 1985-89. The OPEC, on the other hand, increased its share in world oil production to 37 per cent in 1989 compared to 30 per cent in 1985, though it was far lower than 48 per cent in 1979. That is to say, the phase of cutbacks in output of crude in the OPEC in early 1980s ended in late eighties. This change was unwelcome to Iraq. Saudi Arabia and Kuwait which together produced 7,200 mbd or about one-third of the total production of the OPEC (25,300 mbd) welcomed it. Iraq preferred to

keep the output low so that the price of crude rules high, but the other OPEC countries held that the production of crude should be stepped up to make the oil available at a low price in the world market.

On July 27 last, the OPEC countries lifted for the first time in four years the price of crude by a margin of just three dollars a barrel to 21 dollars a barrel and pegged production of crude to 22.5 mbd. This historic decision marked a turning point in the mood of the members of the cartel as there was a real conviction that the members would stick to the commitment to abide by the decisions. Iraq however did not fall in line with the other members apprehending that Saudi Arabia and Kuwait (the largest exporters of oil in the region) would, as in the past, try to dominate the market by exceeding the prescribed limit for crude production.

The Iraqi President, assailed by the Western Press as the "Hitler of the East" has taken a pre-emptive step in mounting an aggression against Kuwait. With his military might—the largest in the Arab world and the fourth largest in the world—he has annexed the territory of Kuwait. The US has put a military blockade in the Gulf to force the unlawful aggression vacated.

The 15-member Security Council has unanimously decided to impose economic sanctions against Iraq. But Saddam Hussein is undeterred.

The implication of the takeover of Kuwait by Iraq is that combined production of oil of both will be around 4.8 bbd which represents about 7 per cent of the total world output of oil (67,400 mbd) and 20 per cent of the production in OPEC. The reserves of crude in the two countries is nearly 197 billion barrels.

III. Effects

What will be the impact of the Gulf crisis? The worst thing stemming from Iraq's invasion is that the war clouds are hovering menacingly over the Middle East. The equally strategic action taken by President George Bush has complicated the crisis in the region. If pressures by the Big-2, the United Nations Organisation and the Security Council continue unabated, the explosive situation can be defused. Emboldened by the US-Soviet summit at Helsinki, the US President has declared America's determination to foil the aggressor's designs and has called upon President Saddam Hussein to withdraw from Kuwait "completely, immediately and unconditionally". President Bush believes that President Saddam has started feeling the heat of the US action. There is, however, no indication that Iraqi President will easily oblige his opponents. At the same time none in the war-weary world would like to adopt a confrontationist posture.

As import embargoes on Iraqi and Kuwaiti oil imposed by the US and other countries become fully effective, prices are expected to spurt. In fact, the crude price in the world market has already risen to \$ 30 a barrel in the US. The average price of the basket of the seven crude oils monitored by the OPEC rose to \$ 28.84 in the week ending September 7, 1990. This is nearly 33 per cent above the reference price of \$ 21 a barrel. A further rise in the price of crude cannot be ruled out.

The escalation in the price of crude will doubtlessly have serious repercussion on the economics of the industrialized countries, but the oil-importing developing countries in debt like India will feel the pinch most. Mr Alexander Shakow, Director of the External Affairs, World Bank, is stated to have told newsmen that the World Bank realised the need to speed up flow of resources to countries like India. Due weightage will be given to the plight of big borrowers like India which have suffered a "compounded impact of not only higher import bills from rising oil

prices, but also loss of repatriated funds from nationals who lost their jobs in Iraq and Kuwait.

With India's record high external debt of Rs 81168 crore as of end-March, 1990, and the debt-service ratio of 23 per cent in 1988-89 (as against 16 per cent in 1985-86), additional debt burden on account of financing the higher oil import bill will throw the economy into disarray. The calculations are that one dollar increase in crude price entails an additional expenditure on oil imports of the order of Rs 400 crore. Though it is difficult to quantify the financial impact of the requisite import of oil to meet the rising demand, it remains a matter of grave concern. The additional outgo is, however, estimated at nearly Rs 1600 crore because of the spurt in oil prices in the international market.

The government of India has attacked the problem on two fronts. On the supply side, it is augmenting stocks with fresh imports. Malaysia has agreed to supply 75,000 ton and Iraq has reportedly offered free supplies to the third world countries. (Some say it is a political gimmick). Despite the crisis, the Soviet Union has assured India to redeem its pledge to supply oil.

A package of measures—price hike for petrol and petroleum products as announced in the current year's budget; reduced working hours for the sale of petrol, restrictions on the use of official vehicles—has been evolved as a demand control mechanism. Recently, the government has been considering the question of imposing a surcharge on petroleum products to curb consumption. No decision has yet been taken in this regard realising perhaps its inflationary impact. Moreover, to imagine that it would reduce consumption would be naive as the products have inelastic demand.

It is also unlikely to result in import substitution on an extensive scale by discovering alternative energy sources or adopt new technology to reduce oil-based energy intensity or use energy-efficient equipment. These are long-term measures which

have not been given due attention.

The shortfall in oil supply may unleash the spectre of stagflation. Iraq's action has the potential of affecting the global economy. With prices soaring and production low, stagflation could be round the corner. The oil price rise coupled with short supply will cause a slow-down of growth in the industrialised countries which will affect exports from the developing countries like India. Our balance of payments situation will worsen further.

The Gulf debacle has taken a toll of business confidence. "It has shattered the image of the Gulf as a safe haven for the world's entrepreneurs. What he failed to achieve in eight years of bloody war with Iran, President Saddam Hussein has achieved in the eight hours he spent invading Kuwait."

There has been a flight of capital, estimated at 2-3 billion dollar from the United Arab Emirates and it is not likely to return. Even if the crude price rules as high as \$ 25 per barrel, it will not attract foreign investors, not for the next two years at least.

The evacuation of foreigners (Indians, Britishers and others) living in the Gulf countries, their repatriation, rehabilitation and resettlement is a fall-out of the unprovoked aggression by Iraq. The problem has complicated by the US blockade of the Gulf. India has to arrange evacuation of several hundreds of her countrymen in the Gulf. The US blockade has rendered the provision of consumer goods—food, water, medicine etc.—to the stranded people very difficult, if not impossible. Only very recently, the Security Council has agreed to allow food through the UN imposed embargo to Iraq and Kuwait but the conditions laid down could make it ineffective from day one. India has, on humanitarian grounds, been allowed to distribute food to its nationals.

Besides the refugee problem in respect of the NRI repatriated, India has suffered an incalculable loss in terms of inward remittances from the Gulf countries. It has also lost trade with Iraq and other Gulf countries.

India and Gulf Crisis: Policy Error?

India has, by and large, backed the U.S. and U.N. line on Iraq's aggression against Kuwait, thus risking the displeasure of President Saddam Hussein. For many years, India cultivated Iraq's friendship as an ally in NAM, but is now in Baghdad's "hostile" camp. The proposition for discussion is: "India has erred in supporting the Western stand against Iraq".

Mr A After initial hesitation, India's Minister for External Affairs, Mr I.K. Gujral, declared the Government's policy: it is strongly opposed to the aggression launched by Iraq against the tiny neighbour, Kuwait, because the "swallowing up" of a small and weak neighbour clearly violated the principles which India has earnestly advocated all these years, notably respect for other countries' sovereignty and territorial integrity. The fact is that President Saddam Hussein, obsessed with power (he has built up a huge army and an impressive air force), acquired a large arsenal of weapons, including chemical weapons. Even otherwise, he commands a privileged position, especially since his notable victory over Iran after eight years of war. It is by far the most powerful country of West Asia. All the Western Powers are now ranged against Iraq; they have good reasons to do so because Iraq has been guilty of violating the basic rules of international conduct. Through the UN Security Council, which has promptly and with rare unanimity, passed a series of resolutions condemning Iraq's aggression

and imposing sanctions against it, largely at the insistence of U.S. President Bush who is bitter against President Saddam Hussein and whom he seems determined to liquidate. Has not India indirectly become a party to the UN-approved economic and military sanctions against Iraq, its friend? And hasn't India become, again indirectly, a member of the group of Western countries which are ready to apply all-out economic sanctions and are ready even to go to the extent of enforcing an aerial blockade, whatever the cost? There is no doubt that India would have to face several difficulties, mostly economic ones, as a result of the Gulf crisis. If a war breaks out—and the chances cannot be ruled out in view of the firm refusal of President Saddam Hussein to pull out his forces from Kuwait and the Western allies' determination to teach him a lesson. It is estimated that the Gulf crisis is likely to cause a loss of about 3.5 billion dollars to India this year, possibly more as time passes. Should India not modify its policy so as to avoid at least some of this massive economic burden? This country is already facing an economic crisis. There is the sizable oil crisis too. I think, sir, there is a strong case in favour of policy modification *vis-à-vis* the Gulf crisis.

Mr B Sir, I would like to ask those who are against the proposition under discussion a simple and straightforward question. Would it have been proper, and consistent with this country's policy, to con-

done Iraq's blatant act of aggression against a neighbour? Throughout our post-independence history, at all international forums and on other occasions, we have strongly condemned all acts of aggression, direct and indirect. In fact, we have been in the forefront whenever condemnation of aggression and imperial expansion by powerful countries came up before the United Nations. In 1962 we were ourselves helpless and pathetic victims of gross, unprovoked aggression by China which continues to be in firm possession of vast Indian territory, over 13,500 sq miles, which it seized in the 1962 war. We would have been put to great shame and embarrassment if we had conceded Iraq's excesses, including the recent illegal incorporation of Kuwait as a province of Iraq. And just note the distinctly insolent attitude of Iraq's leader. Instead of expressing willingness to start negotiations with various countries so as to settle the dispute (for which it is itself responsible), spokesmen of the Iraqi Government, notably the Supreme Revolutionary Command Council, have declared emphatically that they have no intention to vacate the territory they captured in a sudden swoop on August 2. "There is no possibility of a withdrawal from the battle-fronts", the Council stated, "in accordance with the principles of honour and of the profound faith in our determination to advance towards victory." The Iraqis have even taken shelter behind the supposed will of the Almighty. God wants the battle to be taken from Iraqi soil to liberate Jerusalem and

other holy places. The hint is at Israel, the notorious enemy of the Arabs, and also at Saudi Arabia, the protégé of the U.S.A. This firm stand was evidently announced in response to the U.S. President's remark. The latter had reiterated his demand for prompt withdrawal of Iraqi troops from Kuwait. Thus, India would have been placed continually in the wrong if it had not joined the majority of world nations in condemning the Iraqi aggression and asking for withdrawal of its forces from Kuwait territory. As for the heavy economic loss which India has suffered as a result of the Gulf crisis, especially in respect of oil supplies and the very high price (30 dollars a barrel), this is by no means a result of this country's support to the Powers which have deplored Iraq's actions. True, India has been among the major sufferers of the Gulf crisis but it has to meet the situation that has adversely affected several other countries also, especially the oil importers. Every oil crisis stemming from a fall in the total production, a sharp enhancement in the price or a prolonged interruption of supplies inevitably affects India and further pushes up the heavy import bill because we have to import substantial quantities of oil to meet our increasing consumption. Our support to the UN resolutions against Iraq has little to do with this problem. We really cannot adopt a line different from that dictated by the principles by which we have stood all these years.

Mr C Sir, my predecessors have not referred to an important aspect of the Gulf crisis—the human dimension. India was compelled by circumstances to launch what was probably the biggest rescue operation to save stranded Indians in Iraq and Kuwait; it brought home about 48,000 people who were in distress and many of whom were living under pathetic conditions in refugee camps even though they had sub-

stantial assets in Kuwait banks. The Government of India had to rush large quantities of foodstuffs and medicines for the benefit of refugees. But just note the utter callousness of the authorities in the affected region and also some top U.N. council members. They were reluctant to allow Indian ships, loaded with food for the stranded Indians to enter the Iraqi and Kuwait ports. The plight of the Indian community in the afflicted Gulf region was indeed miserable. Thousands of them faced starvation and death if the supplies sent by India were not allowed to reach them. Although the Super Powers at their summit meeting at Helsinki agreed on an extensive trade embargo against Iraq, they rightly made an exception in the case of food and other essential supplies sent for relief of refugees. Thus there was initial recognition of humanitarian circumstances. Even though over 150,000 Indians were facing distress, the "humanitarian circumstances" criterion was not readily applied. Of the 172,000 Indians living in Kuwait at the time of the aggression, besides the 10,000 others in Iraq, they rushed to Jordan in the hope of escaping from distress but had to live in heart-breaking conditions. The U.N. warned that immediate assistance was needed to prevent a massive human tragedy. Oddly enough, the U.S. was willing only to let Indian ships go to the region to rescue the stranded Indians but it declined to allow adequate food and medical supplies in these ships. Unfortunately, thousands of Indians have become victims of the diplomatic manoeuvre adopted by the Iraqi authorities who made British and U.S. hostages a pawn in their game. Why were Indians allowed to be threatened with starvation?

Mr D My friend and teammate, Mr B, argued well in pointing out that India would have found herself on the wrong side of the fence if she had backed Iraq in this crisis and

not joined the democratic regimes around the world in deploring the wholly unjustified act of aggression. I am of the opinion that in supporting U.S. sponsored resolutions in the U.N. Council, India did the right thing. In recent months, Indo-U.S. relations have been showing improvement, especially with the virtual dissipation of the pro-Pakistan and anti-Indian "tilt" of the notorious John Foster Dulles era. If by stages the U.S. Government curtails its supplies of weapons to Pakistan (now that it has lost interest in Afghanistan and, presumably, does not regard Pakistan as its most dependable and indispensable ally in the East) India would be a gainer. As for the heavy economic loss suffered by India as a result of the Gulf and oil crises, it is heartening to note that the U.S. has indicated its willingness to favour 1.5-billion-dollar IMF aid to India. The economy of Bangladesh has also been hit hard. It is expected that at the instance of the U.S., the IMF and the World Bank would enhance their loans to India and Bangladesh, partly by adjusting the provisions of the special IMF facility. India may thus obtain substantial relief in short-term loans with no major conditionality. The break-up of the 3.5-billion dollar cost of the crisis to India would perhaps be: \$ 1.5 billion in higher oil prices, a loss of \$ 500 million in exports, another \$ 500 million in inward remittances and 1 billion dollars as transport costs for the airlift of stranded Indians. If these expectations materialise, India would receive sizable compensation (of course it would not be described as such but as assistance) for falling in line with the Western Powers at this critical juncture. The Government of India has not yet indicated whether it intends to pass on a part of the additional cost of the oil imports to the consumer through higher petrol prices, but it might. Thus the Gulf crisis has not only caused indescribable misery to Indians (especially people of Kerala) but also cost the national exchequer heavily.

Special Feature on TESTS OF REASONING

The Test of Reasoning has come to be regarded as an essential feature for every competitive examination. These tests include a wide range of topics to test various aspects of mental ability of the candidate and to judge his power of reasoning. The candidates often consider the Tests of Reasoning as very unreasonable.

The main object of this feature is to enable the candidates to see the problems in their right perspective, to weigh their pros and cons and reach the right conclusion and not just think of them as some fearsome jargon.

The Tests of Reasoning generally include the following type of questions:

1. The Number Series:

The number series are usually formed on the following basis:

- (i) Common difference among numbers:
e.g., 3; 7; 11; 15... (difference of 4) or
21; 18; 15; 12... (difference of 3)
- (ii) Successive difference among numbers:

Example:

- (a) $1(+2)$; $3(+4)$; $7(+6)$; 13... or
 $21(-8)$; $13(-6)$; $7(-4)$; 3...
- (b) 1; 4; 9; 16... (i.e., 1^2 ; 2^2 ; 3^2 ; 4^2 ...) or
1; 8; 27; 64... (cubes of numbers)

- (c) Sometimes a certain number is added to these numbers e.g.,

$$(1^2 + 2)3; (2^2 + 2)6; (3^2 + 2)11;$$

$$(4^2 + 2)18...$$

The arrangement could be in receding order as well i.e., 18; 11; 6; 3...

Such series are very common in all competitive exams. So it is better to remember that the gap among squares of numbers is 3, 5, 7, 9, 11 (i.e., each next number is +2) and among cubes of numbers is 7, 19, 37, 61, 91.

(iii) Geometric series: This type of series means a constant ratio among numbers:

e.g., $2(\times 2)$; $4(\times 2)$; $8(\times 2)$; 16... or
 $4(\times 3)$; $12(\times 3)$; $36(\times 3)$; 108... or
 $324(\div 3)$; $108(\div 3)$; $36(\div 3)$; 12...

It could also be

$3(\times 1)$; $3(\times 2)$; $6(\times 3)$; $18(\times 4)$; 72...

(iv) Relative series: Here the numbers have certain relation among themselves. The numbers are usually in sets of three.

Example: 3; 7; 4; 12; 8; 20; 12

Numbers on right and left are added to get the number in the middle.

(v) Mixed series: These may include mixture of different types. They are also known as the compound series.

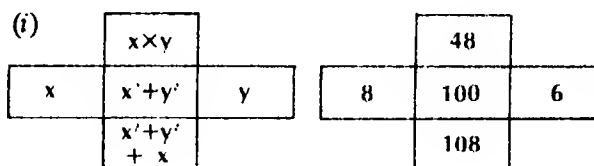
Examples: (a) 1; 1; 4; 8; 9; 27. (1^2 ; 1^3 ; 2^2 ; 2^3 ...)

(b) 10; 15; 30; 45; 90. ($\times 1.5$; $\times 2$; $\times 1.5$; $\times 2$...)

(c) Two series may be written in a compound form e.g., 2; 3; 4; 5 and
4; 8; 16; 32; 64... would be written
as 2; 4; 3; 8; 4; 16; 5; 32...

2. Relation among Numbers

Relation among numbers arranged in figures are often ascertained by adding, subtracting, multiplying or dividing numbers among themselves. Sometimes their squares are added or the numbers are added and the number is their square or cube as shown in the example.



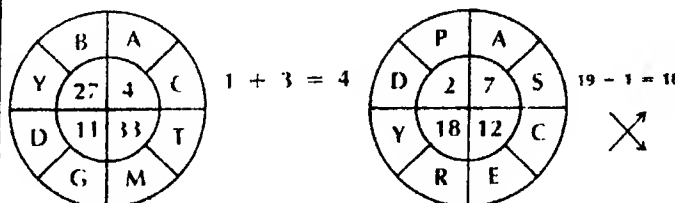
(ii) $4(144)8$ $3(\dots)7$
The answer would be $(3+7)^2 = 100$

3. Letter series

These questions are best answered by writing the letters in their alphabetical order and numbering them.

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
									L	
									12	
									M	
									13	
Z	Y	X	W	V	U	T	S	R	Q	P
26	25	24	23	22	21	20	19	18	17	16

Match the series given in the question with their corresponding numbers and study the gap, e.g., in series BCE; YZB; KLN; QRU, the last one is the odd-man. The same applies to filling in the blanks; e.g.,



The combined questions consist of letters as well as numbers and can be answered in the same way.

4. Coding-Decoding

The above table helps in solving these type of questions too; e.g., the word 'HALF' could be coded in several ways, by using the next letter i.e., IBMG or the preceding one GZKE, by a regular gap JCNH or by some sort of mixed arrangement, one preceding and one following letter, IZME.

Then there is another type where one particular letter is represented by a definite letter. They are as follows:

LAND (a) u (b) b (c) m (d) v

WALK (a) m (b) p (c) s (d) h

LIKE (a) s (b) b (c) g (d) r

DYKE (a) h (b) g (c) s (d) u

Sort out common letters from words and codes and match them. Here, L occurs in three words, so does b, so 'b' is the code for L, 's' is the code for k. Thus you can answer such questions quite easily. Sometimes words are coded by other words; the same method can be applied there as well.

5. Logical Diagrams

(A) Also known as Venn Diagrams, they represent relationship among items. Three items are represented by three circles irrespective of their size. The arrangement of circles depends upon the logical relationship among the articles, as shown in the examples given below:

(i) Independent items:

farmers : doctors : lawyers



or tea : coffee : juice

(ii) Items contained in one another

India : Maharashtra : Bombay



or school : blackboard : classroom

(iii) Two independent item with one common factor

boys : educated : girls

(means some boys and some girls are educated)



temples : Mosques : Hill-top

(iv) One category containing the other two.

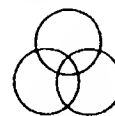
reptile : snake : python



brick : cement : building material

(v) All the three having common elements:

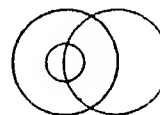
women : politician : smart



superior : clothes : synthetic

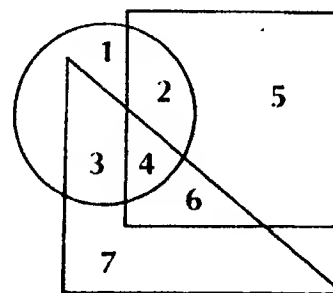
(vi) One belonging to a category and some common element in both:

cow : animal : white



men : sailors : tall

(B) In the other type, various areas are represented by different figures and all parts are numbered. e.g., in the figure given here, circle represents area having coal mines, triangle the area with gold mines and square the area with iron-ore mines. No. 4 has all the three mines. No. 2 has coal mines and iron-ore mines. The questions are based on these numbers.



6. Odd-man

The odd-man should be picked out by reasoning.

Example: doctor : nurse : patient : compounder : surgeon

Reasoning—'nurse' is the only female but the patient and doctor could belong to the same sex too. All the others are concerned with the medical profession except the patient so 'it' is the odd-man.

7. Analogies

Analogy means relationship between two items which are given in the question, and to test the reasoning of the candidate, he is asked to find out the right word for the blank given or he has to pick out the correct set of words with similar relationship. There may be a variety of them but the most common ones are as follows:

(a) Whole and part relationship:

Examples—animal : tiger; water : liquid;
Kathak : dance etc.

(b) Purpose or function relationship:

Examples—canal : irrigation; pen : write;
lock : safety.

(c) Sequence relationship:

Examples—10 : 11; Monday : Tuesday;
summer : spring.

(d) Cause and effect (consequence) relationship:

Examples—germ : disease; flood : disaster;
accident : casualty.

(e) Association relationship:

Example—Tansen : Music; Goa : tourism;
poetry : inspiration.

(f) Neighbourly relationship:

Examples—Mars : Earth; Z : Y; February : March;
Nepal : India.

(g) Degree relationship:

Examples—smile : laugh; cool : cold;
sprain : fracture.

(h) Same category relationship:

Examples—pen : pencil; hockey : cricket;
milk : juice.

(i) Grammatical relationship:

Examples—play : dance (verbs); much : less (degrees);
city : river (nouns).

(j) Synonyms relationship: (Similar words)

Examples—idle : lazy; big : huge;
afraid : frightened.

(k) Antonyms relationship: (Opposites)

Examples—dark : bright; intelligent : stupid; smooth :
rough.

(l) Quality (associated) relationship:

Examples—nurse : kind; tree : green;
mother : loving.

8. Deductions

For solving these problems, stated facts should be arranged systematically.

Example: 1.

A to G have been arranged in a line.
C is between F and B
F and D have two letters between them.
G is to the left of B.
E and D have one letter between them.

Solution: The most positive statement is the fourth one.

So we get GB.

Then since C is between F and B we will have GBCF.

Then there ought to be a gap of two letters between F and D; it could not be on the left as we have G there so it would be GBCF — — D.

Then the last statement would make it GBCFE — D.

The only remaining letter is A so the solution is GBCFEAD.

Example: 2. Persons of four different nationalities—an American, an Italian, a Russian and a Canadian—order ice-cream, omlette, boiled eggs and fruit cream.

Each has one dish.

The Canadian and the American did not order fruit-cream or boiled eggs.

Omlette was not ordered by the American.

The Russian did not order anything containing cream.

Make a chart as follows and tick mark or put a cross in the right places.

Nationality	Ice-cream	Omlette	Eggs	fr-cream
American	✓	×	×	×
Italian				
Russian				
Canadian			×	×

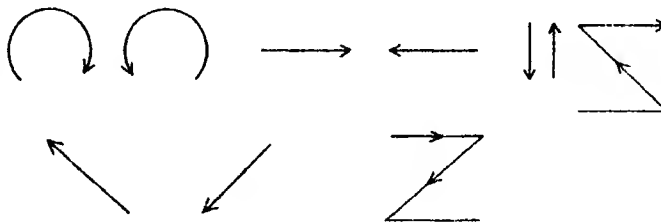
Fill in the remaining columns and you'll see how easy it is. Since the American had the ice-cream, no one else had it so you can put × there.

9. Non-Verbal Series

In these questions, you have to find out the right answer figure to fit in place of the question mark in problem figures.

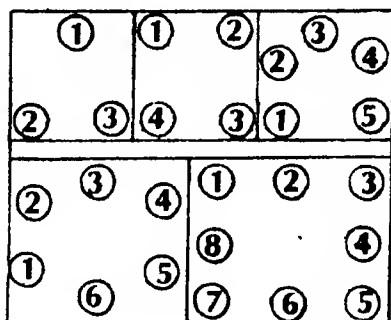
While studying the figures, keep the following in mind.

(i) If the figure or part of the figures shows some movement it could be clockwise, anti-clockwise, right and left, up and down, in a zig-zag way or in a diagonal way.

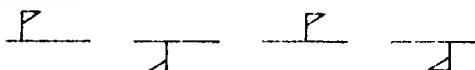


(ii) Observe the pace of movement. It could be along three points, four points, five points, six points or eight

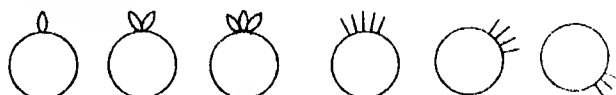
points.



(iii) Some figures also change direction or tilt while moving as shown below:



(iv) In certain figures a part is added or removed as shown below:

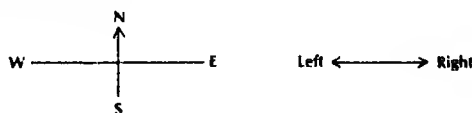


(v) Some times the figure changes alternately:



Conclusion

In fact, there is no reason to look at the tests of reasoning as a complicated confusing affair. They just need a little common sense. The only problem is speed. For that you need ample amount of practice. If you draw sketches for solving problems you can manage it faster. For example in solving problems concerned with directions east, west, north and south, the best way is to draw the following sketch and



see how much time you save. Same is the case with dice and cube problems. Draw all the possible sketches.



In finding out the odd-man in non-verbal series or attempting questions to establish relationship, apply the method stated in non-verbal series section and you are bound to be right.

Practice Tests

VERBAL ANALOGIES

TYPE I (Odd-man out)

Find the odd-man out. Tick-mark the correct choice.

- (a) ink (b) pen (c) pencil (d) brush (e) chalk-stick
- (a) mother (b) sister (c) brother (d) aunt (e) daughter-in-law
- (a) guitar (b) piano (c) harmonium (d) banjo (e) accordion
- (a) rink (b) arena (c) court (d) farm (e) stadium
- (a) conscience (b) morality (c) conduct (d) will-power (e) weight
- (a) topple (b) tumble (c) slip (d) skip (e) fall
- (a) train (b) car (c) cart (d) truck
- (a) 14th November (b) 2nd October (c) 19th November (d) 30th January
- (a) nest (b) pen (c) den (d) manger
- (a) cooperative (b) coordinate (c) correlate (d) combat
- (a) fur (b) wool (c) cotton (d) beard (e) eye-brow
- (a) freeze (b) simmer (c) bake (d) boil (e) fry
- (a) milk (b) syrup (c) squash (d) tea (e) cake
- (a) Colgate (b) Forhan's (c) Lux (d) Cibaca (e) Promise
- (a) secretary (b) council (c) panel (d) cabinet (e) committee

ANSWERS & EXPLANATIONS

- (a) Ink is a medium while others are instruments.
- (c) All the others are women relatives.
- (a) It is the only instrument with strings, all the others have keys.

4. (d) All the others are connected with games.
5. (e) It is a physical aspect.
6. (d) All the others are ways of falling down.
7. (c) All the others need fuel.
8. (d) All the others are birthdays (Nehru, Gandhi/Shastri, Indira Gandhi and Dr Radhakrishnan)
9. (d) It is a feeding box. All the others are places where the creature concerned stays.
10. (d) In all the other words 'co' is used for 'together with'.
11. (c) All the others have hair contents.
12. (a) All the others need heat to be cooked.
13. (e) All the others are used as drinks.
14. (c) All the others are tooth-pastes.
15. (a) All the others are functioning bodies of certain members.

TYPE II

Tick-mark the most appropriate choice:

1. 'Shoe' is to 'leather' as 'brick' is to:
(a) building (b) stones
(c) clay (d) fire
2. 'Crutches' is to 'walk' as 'spectacles' is to:
(a) lens (b) vision
(c) see (d) eyes
3. 'Office' is to 'executives' as 'home' is to:
(a) housewife (b) money
(c) husband (d) servants
4. 'Gown' is to 'garment' as 'Bible' is to:
(a) religion (b) Christianity
(c) book (d) Jesus
5. 'Hair' is to 'bald' as 'vegetation' is to:
(a) green (b) land
(c) irrigation (d) barren
6. 'Palaces' are to 'huts' as 'metropolitan' is to:
(a) hamlet (b) forests
(c) poverty (d) sky-scrapers
7. 'launcher' is to 'missiles' as:
(a) gun is to revolver
(b) boat is to anchor
(c) catapult is to stone
(d) engine is to train
8. 'scholarship' is to 'brilliance' as:
(a) punishment is to indiscipline
(b) race is to prize
(c) salary is to employee
(d) car is to driver
9. 'college' is to 'student' as:
(a) man is to home
(b) Greece is to Rome
(c) State is to country
(d) jail is to criminals
10. 'ring' is to 'engagement' as:
(a) handshake is to treaty
(b) kick is to beat
(c) anger is to insult
(d) bangle is to wrist
11. 'hair' is to 'shampoo' as:
(a) face is to powder

- (b) button is to shirt
- (c) detergent is to soap
- (d) teeth is to toothpowder
12. 'suggestion' is to 'order' as:
(a) advise is to suggest
(b) smile is to laugh
(c) plan is to implement
(d) anger is to shout
13. 'interview' is to 'service' as:
(a) travel is to bus
(b) examination is to degree
(c) ticket is to travel
(d) light is to darkness
14. 'grief' is to 'tears' as:
(a) tension is to blood pressure
(b) laugh is to teeth
(c) pain is to aspirin
(d) injury is to first aid
15. 'Curve' is to 'accident' as 'dirt' is to:
(a) sweepers (b) roads
(c) health (d) diseases

ANSWERS

1. (c) The relation is that of material and product.
2. (c) One is an aid the other action.
3. (a) One is place, the other its manager.
4. (c) The relation is that of specific article and the category to which it belongs.
5. (d) One is growth, the other place where growth has ceased.
6. (a) The words have the highest and the lowest relationship.
7. (c) One is used for throwing the other.
8. (a) One is the result of the other.
9. (d) The relationship shows the special place for the other.
10. (a) It is the token and ceremony relationship.
11. (d) The relationship is that of the object and the agent to clean it.
12. (b) One is mild, the other stronger form.
13. (b) One is means to acquire the other.
14. (a) The second is the outcome of the first.
15. (d) It is the cause and probability relationship.

TYPE III

(Word Relationship)

Choose the pair/group of words that shows the same relationship as given at the top of every set/pair/group.

1. minute : hour
(a) drop : ocean (b) people : crowd
(c) cup : tea-set (d) paisa : rupee
2. love : hatred
(a) education : illiteracy (b) father : son
(c) anger : violence (d) lazy : idle
3. round : earth
(a) thin : paper
(b) height : mountain
(c) transparent : glass

- (d) cube : dice
4. medicine : pills
(a) spices : food
(b) knowledge : books
(c) watch : time
(d) radio : sound
5. number : mathematics
(a) grammar : language
(b) plants : zoology
(c) notes : music
(d) herbs : medicine
6. Tagore : Gitanjali
(a) Madam Curie : radium
(b) Shakespeare : King Lear
(c) Dickens : Oliver Twist
(d) Nobel : dynamite
7. prince : queen
(a) princess : king
(b) State : country
(c) colt : mare
(d) boat : ship
8. ideas : brain
(a) literature : author
(b) clouds : ocean
(c) money : bank
(d) planets : earth
9. glove : ball
(a) shirt : coat
(b) helmet : accident
(c) socks : feet
(d) coat : warmth
10. warm : hot
(a) sob : weep
(b) cold : ice
(c) laugh : cry
(d) book : knowledge
11. gum : stick
(a) colour : box
(b) cake : birthday
(c) medicine : swallow
(d) brush : paint
12. work : fatigue
(a) water : drink
(b) poison : death
(c) laziness : fall
(d) love : hate
13. journalism : newspaper
(a) currency : economics
(b) geology : land
(c) money : bank
(d) milk : butter
14. mistake : practice
(a) drought : rain
(b) error : trial
(c) anger : resentment
(d) print : press
15. secretary : shorthand
(a) teacher : school
(b) officer : department

- (c) chef : cooking
(d) musician : instrument

ANSWERS

1. (d) The relation is that of smaller unit of calculation and the bigger one.
2. (a) The words are opposites.
3. (d) The relationship is that of the object and its shape.
4. (b) The second is the container, the first contained.
5. (c) The whole system of the second word is based on the first.
6. (a) The first got the 'Nobel Prize' for the second.
7. (c) The relationship is that of the young male and his mother.
8. (b) Ideas originate and rise from brain, clouds from ocean.
9. (b) The role of the first word is to save from the force of the second one.
10. (a) The relationship is that of mild and strong action.
11. (d) The relationship is that of the thing and its use.
12. (b) It is the cause and effect relationship.
13. (c) The latter depends upon the former.
14. (a) Lack of the second causes the first.
15. (c) The relationship is that of the person and essential qualifications.

TYPE IV

Two words are given to the left of the sign :: and one word and a question mark on the right. Tick mark the appropriate choice for the missing word on the basis of the relationship of the words on the left.

1. bold : shy :: shabby : ?
(a) dirt (b) unclean
(c) clean (d) appearance
2. trees : pollution :: ? : malaria
(a) doctor (b) death
(c) quinine (d) fever
3. angle : degree :: rainfall : ?
(a) rain-gauge (b) centimetre
(c) flood (d) monsoon
4. conscience : wrong :: police : ?
(a) discipline (b) enemy
(c) hardship (d) crime
5. cool : cold :: ? : laughter
(a) smile (b) happiness
(c) tears (d) whole-heartedness
6. Calcutta : Hooghly :: Rangoon : ?
(a) Burma (b) harbour
(c) Brahmaputra (d) Bay of Bengal
7. ointment : apply :: cigarette : ?
(a) tobacco (b) smoke
(c) harmful (d) cigar
8. Korea : Asia :: Alaska : ?
(a) Europe (b) America
(c) Australia (d) Africa
9. words : language :: ? : geometry
(a) algebra (b) figures

- | | |
|---|-----------------|
| (c) trigonometry | (d) line |
| 10. eyes : vision :: ? : blade | |
| (a) axe | (b) shave |
| (c) cut | (d) iron |
| 11. crime : police :: flood : ? | |
| (a) river | (b) water |
| (c) engineer | (d) destruction |
| 12. height : climbers :: ? : astronauts | |
| (a) shuttle | (b) space |
| (c) courage | (d) orbit |
| 13. Ace : Jack :: twenty : ? | |
| (a) nineteen | (b) seventeen |
| (c) eighteen | (d) twenty one |
| 14. pesticide : crop :: ? : wound | |
| (a) antiseptic | (b) bleeding |
| (c) bandage | (d) weapon |

The first two words in the following questions have a definite relationship. Tick mark the right choice for the next set.

- | | |
|------------------------------------|----------------|
| 15. hunger : food :: fatigue : ? | (b) exhaustion |
| (a) rest | (d) vitamins |
| (c) faint | |
| 16. axe : chopping :: gum : ? | |
| (a) chewing | (b) teeth |
| (c) letters | (d) sticking |
| 17. dollar : currency :: pound : ? | |
| (a) weight | (b) England |
| (c) Japan | (d) France |
| 18. alas : sorrow :: ? : surprise | |
| (a) hello | (b) ah |
| (c) wonder | (d) ahoy |
| 19. head : brain :: grenade : ? | |
| (a) gun-powder | (b) explode |
| (c) hand | (d) throw |
| 20. lane : road :: ? : city | |
| (a) highway | (b) state |
| (c) vehicles | (d) village |

ANSWERS

- | | | | |
|--|---------|---------|---------|
| 1. (c) The words have antonym relationship. | | | |
| 2. (c) The relationship is of getting rid. | | | |
| 3. (b) The relationship is of unit of measurement. | | | |
| 4. (d) They are the checks on evils. | | | |
| 5. (a) The relationship is based on 'degree' | | | |
| 6. (d) They have the relationship of situation | | | |
| 7. (b) It is the way the article is used. | | | |
| 8. (b) | 9. (d) | 10. (a) | 11. (c) |
| 12. (b) | 13. (b) | 14. (a) | 15. (a) |
| 16. (d) | 17. (a) | 18. (b) | 19. (a) |
| 20. (d) | | | |

TYPE V

Choose the group of words that shows the same relationship as given at the top of every set:

1. ink : pen : paper
 - (a) watch : dial : strap
 - (b) colour : brush : canvas
 - (c) farmer : plough : field

- (d) book : paper : words
2. park : flowers : trees : gardener
 - (a) auditorium : audience : screen : actors
 - (b) body : face : nose : arms
 - (c) platform : train : porters : engine
 - (d) classroom : children : furniture : teacher
3. hand : wrist : bangle
 - (a) neck : head : collar
 - (b) foot : ankle : anklet
 - (c) foot : socks : toes
 - (d) toe : foot : knee
4. music : guitar : performer
 - (a) trick : rope : acrobat
 - (b) dance : tune : instrument
 - (c) food : recipe : cook
 - (d) patient : medicine : doctor
5. studio : Bombay : stars
 - (a) oranges : Nagpur : juice
 - (b) ship : Madras : harbour
 - (c) sunrise : Darjeeling : sherpas
 - (d) Parliament House : Delhi : ministers
6. mountain : height : climber
 - (a) river : length : water
 - (b) land : farmer : crop
 - (c) college : building : student
 - (d) sea : depth : diver
7. mouth : teeth : chew
 - (a) eyes : lashes : see
 - (b) head : brain : think
 - (c) skin : sweat : touch
 - (d) feet : dance : toe
8. road : bus : driver
 - (a) track : train : passenger
 - (b) water : ship : diver
 - (c) sky : aeroplane : pilot
 - (d) paper : letters : reader
9. ghazal : studio : Begum Akhtar
 - (a) wrestling : arena : Dara Singh
 - (b) cricket : runs : Gavaskar
 - (c) dance : Bharat Natyam : Vijayanti Mala
 - (d) poetry : English : Wordsworth
10. tragedy : sadness : tears
 - (a) music : emotion : tune
 - (b) game : ground : match
 - (c) comedy : humour : laughter
 - (d) dance : rhythm : grace

ANSWERS

- | | | | |
|--------|---------|--------|--------|
| 1. (b) | 2. (d) | 3. (b) | 4. (a) |
| 5. (d) | 6. (d) | 7. (b) | 8. (c) |
| 9. (a) | 10. (c) | | |

TYPE VI

What is common in the following? Tick mark the most appropriate choice:

1. slap : hit : kick.
 - (a) Each has one vowel only.
 - (b) They are the ways of striking a person.

- (c) They are exercises.
(d) The terms are used in wrestling.
2. cake : brick : bread.
(a) They have cubical shape.
(b) They have brown tops.
(c) They are very useful.
(d) They are baked.
3. Dr Zakir Hussain : Dr Rajendra Prasad : Dr Radhakrishnan.
(a) They were Presidents of India.
(b) They were doctors of philosophy and great philosophers.
(c) They performed wonders in medical science.
(d) They got Nobel Prize.
4. red : green : blue.
(a) They are original colours.
(b) They are colours of rainbow.
(c) They are mixed colours.
(d) They do not allow light to pass through them.
5. humidity : temperature : pressure.
(a) The terms are connected with heat of the day.
(b) The terms are used by geologists.
(c) The terms are related with weather forecast.
(d) The terms are associated with meteorology.
6. flax : cotton : jute.
(a) They grow in Bengal.
(b) They provide fibre for making yarn.
(c) They are used for making bags.
(d) They are used for making shoes.
7. rubber : resin : opium.
(a) They are obtained from fluids of trees and plants.
(b) They are sticky.
(c) They are smuggled.
(d) They are associated with narcotic drugs.
8. flood : cyclone : earthquake.
(a) They take toll of many lives.
(b) They move from one place to another.
(c) They are caused by low pressure.
(d) They are natural calamities.
9. Konark : Madurai : Khajuraho.
(a) They are famous for their temples.
(b) They were totally destroyed by invaders.
(c) They have some of the very famous forts.
(d) They were capitals of Hindu kings in ancient times.
10. mirror : water : glass.
(a) They are transparent.
(b) They are colourless.
(c) You can see reflections in them.
(d) They are useful items.
11. blunder : bungle : jumble.
(a) They are mistakes that cannot be remedied.
(b) The terms are used for unskillful handling.
(c) The terms are connected with fury.
(d) They mean sudden arrival.
12. fraction : decimal : ratio.
(a) They are part of a number.
(b) The terms are connected with equations.

- (c) The terms are connected with mathematics.
(d) They show relationship between numbers.
13. Bolivia : Uruguay : Ecuador.
(a) They are countries in South America.
(b) They are islands in the Pacific.
(c) Equator passes through all these countries.
(d) All these countries want to change the form of their government.
14. F. Dostoevsky : Leo Tolstoy : Boris Pasternak.
(a) They are head of the State of Uzbekistan.
(b) They are Russian novelists.
(c) They were Russian freedom fighters.
(d) They are Russian politicians.
15. Homer : Surdas : Milton.
(a) They are great religious figures.
(b) They were great saints.
(c) They were singers as well as contemporaries.
(d) They were blind poets.

ANSWERS

- | | | | |
|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| 1. (b) | 2. (d) | 3. (a) | 4. (b) |
| 5. (d) | 6. (b) | 7. (a) | 8. (d) |
| 9. (a) | 10. (c) | 11. (b) | 12. (c) |
| 13. (a) | 14. (b) | 15. (d) | |

NUMBER & LETTER SERIES

TYPE I

Study the following series of letters and answer the questions that follow:

ABCDEF GHIJK LMNOPQ STUVWXY Z

1. How many letters are not in their usual place in the alphabetic order?
(a) 7 (b) 12
(c) 10 (d) 8
2. How many sets of two or more letters have letters in the alphabetic order?
(a) 5 (b) 7
(c) 6 (d) 4
3. Which letter is exactly in the middle of H and P?
(a) N (b) O
(c) M (d) R
4. Some letters are sandwiched between wrong letters, i.e. the preceding letter (in the alphabetic order) is on the right and the next letter on the left. Write them down.
(a) CIOU (b) BHNT
(c) EKOW (d) GJPV
5. Which letters occupy fifth position towards right and seventh position towards left of the fourteenth letter from the beginning?
(a) HT (b) SG
(c) SH (d) QG

Answer the questions given below on the basis of the given alphabet.

ABCDEF GHIJK LMNOPQ RSTUVWX
YZ

6. Which letter is midway the two letters—one is

23rd from right side and the other is 14th from left side.

- (a) H (b) I
(c) J (d) None of these

7. Which letter follows the 12th letter from left and precedes 13th letter from right?

- (a) L (b) M
(c) N (d) None of these

8. Which letter is three letters ahead of the letter, which precedes 3rd letter from left?

- (a) R (b) S
(c) T (d) None of these

9. The letter which follows 'G' and precedes 'T' is:

- (a) E (b) F
(c) J (d) None of these

10. Which letter is 6th from the 11th letter from 'C'?

- (a) S (b) U
(c) T (d) None of these

Tick mark the right choice:

11. cc - cedd - d - cc - cedd - dd

- (a) d, c, d, c, c (b) d, c, d, d, c
(c) d, c, c, d, d (d) None of these

12. nn - mm - n - mm - n

- (a) m, m, n, n (b) m, n, n, n
(c) m, n, n, m (d) None of these

13. k - mnkl - nkml -

- (a) nml (b) lmn
(c) lmm (d) None of these

14. lm - n - o - qq - ss

- (a) mnor (b) mopr
(c) mpor (d) None of these

15. ab - c - a - bccb -

- (a) caba (b) cbaa
(c) cabb (d) None of these

16. There is some relationship in the following series. You have to discover the same and fill in the gaps.

- (a) A Z B Y C X (b) E - - - -
(c) I - - - - (d) J - - - -
(e) H - - - -

17. There is some relationship in the following series. You have to discover the same and fill in the gaps.

- (a) B F I K L (b) C - - - -
(c) D - - - - (d) E - - - -
(e) F - - - -

In the following there are some missing letters. The missing letters are given in the proper sequence as one of the alternatives among the five given under each question. Find the correct alternative in each question:

18. b - y - - by - b - yt

- (a) bgtbt (b) btbtt
(c) atbbt (d) cbbtc
(e) tbtbb

19. -bb - c - bg - b - g

- (a) cbgbc (b) gbcbe
(c) cgbcb (d) gcbcb
(e) bcgcb

20. d - n - - - rindm - n

- (a) ndmnm (b) mndmn
(c) dmnnm (d) mndmn

(e) nmnm d

21. q - s - - - s - qtsu

- (a) tuqtu (b) ututq
(c) qtutu (d) tuutq
(e) utqtu

Sets of letters in the following questions follow the same arrangement. You have to find out the missing letters:

22. abab - b - bcb - dcdeded - d.

- (a) abcd (b) acce
(c) abdc (d) bcde

23. a - bbcdbbc - daccd - abddaab -

- (a) adce (b) abcd
(c) acdc (d) acde

24. ab - abcbcd - d - dcdcdedfde -

- (a) cccf (b) bcdf
(c) bcde (d) bded

25. baab - c - bcbdc - dc - dded.

- (a) abcd (b) bcde
(c) acbe (d) abce

Answer questions 26 to 28 on the basis of the letter series given below:

K N K D A D K N D K A A D N D K N A D N D N A D K N K

26. Which letter has the highest frequency?

- (a) K (b) N
(c) D (d) A

27. How many Ks are there that are preceded by D and followed by N?

- (a) 1 (b) 2
(c) 3 (d) 4

28. Which letter is exactly in the middle of 18th letter from the last and 16th letter from the beginning?

- (a) A (b) D
(c) K (d) N

Answer questions 29 and 30 on the basis of letter series given below:

D A C D B A D C C B D D C B D C B A C A B D A B C A D

29. Which letter has the same letter on both the sides?

- (a) A (b) B
(c) C (d) D

30. Which letter has the highest frequency?

- (a) A (b) B
(c) C (d) D

ANSWERS AND EXPLANATIONS

1. (d) 2. (a) 3. (c) 4. (c)

5. (b)

6. (b) 14th letter from left is 'N' and 23rd letter from right is 'D' and the letter midway the two is 'T'.

7. (b)

8. (d) 'F'. The letter which precedes 3rd letter from left is 'B' and the letter which is three letters ahead of 'B' is 'F'.

9. (d) 'H'.

10. (c) 11th letter from 'C' is 'N' and 6th letter from N is

T.

11. (b) The series is *ccdc, dcdcd, ccdcc, dcdcd*.
 12. (c) The series is *nmn, mnv, nm, nmv*.
 13. (b) The series is *k/mn, k/mn, k/mv*.
 14. (b) The series is *lmv, nvo, pqq, rss*.
 15. (b) The series is *abc, cba, abc, cba*.
 16. (b) V F U G T
(c) R J Q K P
(d) Q K P L O
(e) S I R J Q
 17. (b) G J L M
(c) H K M N
(d) I L N O
(e) J M O P
- There is a difference of 4, 3, 2 and 1 letters between each letter of the series.
18. (b) 19. (c) 20. (d) 21. (a)
 22. (b) Letters are in sets of five.
 23. (d) Letters are in sets of six. Write 'abcd' clockwise and follow the pattern.
 24. (a) Letters are in sets of six.
 25. (d) The sets are of five letters.
 26. (c) 27. (c) 28. (b) 29. (c)
 30. (d)

TYPE II

Write words in the brackets that can be suffixed to the letters on the left and prefixed to those on the right to make two different words:

1. man()ney.
2. ma()age.
3. for()en.
4. esti()rial.
5. pre()real.

Complete the following words that end with 'age' with the help of meaning given in brackets:

6. - - -age (platform for performance)
7. - - -age (to employ)
8. - - -age (illusory appearance in desert)
9. - - -age (to destroy)
10. - - -age (foul liquid material)
11. - - -age (a vehicle)

Form words beginning with 'cap' on the basis of the given clue:

12. cap - - - - (having the ability)
13. cap - (a garment)
14. cap - - - - (a soluble container for a dose of medicine)
15. cap - - - - (a leader)
16. cap - - - - (a prisoner)

In questions 17 to 21, some words are written in code, each number representing a letter, but not in the same order. Decode the numbers and write the corresponding words against them.

Words: DEAR, CARD, STAR, DRAB & REST

17. 1 2 3 4 _____
18. 4 5 1 2 _____
19. 7 4 3 6 _____

20. 7 5 3 4 _____
21. 8 3 4 7 _____

Follow the clues and frame words beginning with 'port'.

22. Port _____ (A person who carries luggage)
23. Port _____ (Position and duty of a minister).
24. Port _____ (A small window on the side of a ship).
25. Port _____ (The front projected portion of a building).
26. Port _____ (A painted picture).

Change the words given below into words that have been written under them.

Change just one letter each times.

The set of letters during the change should make sensible words.

27. DUST	TAPE	SKIT
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
MIND	MILD	CHOP

Of the following tick the one that does not belong to the rest.

- | | |
|---------------|-----------|
| 28. (a) DHG | (b) CGF |
| (c) JNR | (d) BFE |
| (e) HLK | |
| 29. (a) DHLK | (b) LPTX |
| (c) CGKJ | (d) BFJI |
| (e) HLPO | |
| 30. (a) AEIJ | (b) BFJK |
| (c) CGKL | (d) NRVZ |
| (e) EIMN | |
| 31. (a) IMQR | (b) JNRS |
| (c) KOST | (d) MQUV |
| (e) HLPT | |
| 32. (a) AEIMN | (b) BFJNO |
| (c) GKOSW | (d) CGKOP |
| (e) EIMQR | |
| 33. (a) AGMS | (b) BHNT |
| (c) GDKN | (d) CIOU |
| (e) DJPV | |
| 34. (a) AIO | (b) DMN |
| (c) BJR | (d) CKS |
| (e) DLT | |
| 35. (a) EMU | (b) FNV |
| (c) GOW | (d) HPX |
| (e) PVR | |
| 36. (a) AJS | (b) CJQ |
| (c) BJR | (d) PDL |
| (e) KJI | |
| 37. (a) DINS | (b) AHOV |
| (c) CJQX | (d) FKPU |
| (e) MGNP | |

Continue the series:

38. ADB, EHF, ILJ,

39. XZY, UWV, RTS,
40. CEA, HJF, MOK,
41. AZMN, BYLO, CXKP,
42. DCFE, HGJI, LKNM,
43. 138, 161, 185, 210,
44. 1.25, 2.35, 3.45,
45. 1/12, 2/11, 3/10,
46. BUFP, CTGO, DSHN,
47. ACF, EGJ, IKN,
48. DFNT, TDFN, NTDF,
49. ZXVT, WUSQ, TRPN,
50. YZXW, UVST, QROP,

ANSWERS & EXPLANATIONS

- | | | |
|-------------|---------------|---------------|
| 1. age | 2. dam | 3. ward |
| 4. mate | 5. side | 6. stage |
| 7. engage | 8. mirage | 9. damage |
| 10. sewage | 11. carriage | 12. capable |
| 13. cape | 14. capsule | 15. captain |
| 16. captive | 17. star | 18. rest |
| 19. drab | 20. dear | 21. card |
| 22. porter | 23. portfolio | 24. port hole |
| 25. portico | 26. portrait | |
| 27. DUST | TAPE | SKIT |
| MUST | TALE | SKIP |
| MIST | MALE | SHIP |
| MINT | MILE | CHIP |
| MIND | MILD | CHOP |

For answers of Q. 28 to 32, refer to the following arrangement of alphabets.

A	B	C	D
E	F	G	H
I	J	K	L
M	N	O	P
Q	R	S	T
U	V	W	X
Y	Z		

28. Except (c) all others are obtained by going down one row and then turning left once.
29. Except (b) all others are obtained by going down two rows and then turning left once.
30. Except (d) all others are obtained by going down two rows and then turning right once, starting from first row.
31. Except (e) all others are obtained by going down two rows and then turning right once, starting from third line from top.
32. Except (c) all others are obtained by going down four rows and then turning right.
33. All are vertical columns from the top four rows except (c) from II.
34. All are vertical columns from the top three rows except (b) from II.
35. All are vertical columns from the top three rows except (b) from I.
36. All are taken diagonally or vertically or horizontally except (d) from I.
37. All are taken diagonally except (e) from II from top four

rows.

38. MPN. The letters follow according to 1st, 4th and 2nd letters in the alphabet. The sets follow in the same order.
39. OQP. Starting from Z, the letters are in sets of three, following 24th, 26th, and 25th letters.
40. RTP. Letters follow 3rd, 5th, 1st then 8th, 10th, 6th letter series.
41. DWJQ. The series has first, last and middle letters. Then 1st and 4th letters are the next ones and 3rd and 2nd the preceding ones.
42. PORQ. The set of four has 4th, 3rd, 6th and 5th letters then the same series continues with next four letters.
43. 236. The series is $138 + 23 = 161 + 24 = 185 + 25...$
44. 4.55. To each number 1.1 is added.
45. 4/9. The number over the line increases and under the line decreases by '1'
46. ERIM. The first and the third letters are changed into the next letter and the second and fourth into the preceding one.
47. MOR. The first and the second letter drop one letter in between and the second and the third two. The next set starts with the preceding letter of the last one.
48. FNTD. The last letter becomes the first letter.
49. QOMK. The letters, according to their position in the alphabetic order, follow the series, 26, 24, 22, 20; 23, 21, 19, 17; 20, 18, 16, 14 and 17, 15, 13, 11.
50. MNKL. The series is 25, 26, 23, 24; 21, 22, 19, 20; 17, 18, 15, 16 and 13, 14, 11, 12.

NUMERICAL ABILITY

Number in the following questions follow a certain pattern. Your task is to supply the missing number.

1. 2; 7; 9; 3; 8; 11; 4; 9; 13; ____; 10; 15.
2. 21; 32; 45; 60; ____; 96; 117; 140.
3. 80; 40; ____; 44; 90; 48; 95; 52; 100; 56.
4. 2; 20; 4; 10; 6; ____; 8; 2.5; 10; 1.25; 12.
5. 17; 18; 20; 23; ____; 32; 36.
6. 39; 42; 36; 45; ____; 48; 30.
7. 5; 4; 20; 6; 5; 30; 7; 6; 42; ____; 7; 56.
8. 118; ____; 104; 97; 90; 83.
9. 91; 92; 96; 105; 121; ____.
10. 24; 114; 26; 117; 28; ____; 30; 123.
11. 4; 52; ____; 39; 12; 26; 16; 13; 20.
12. 10; 13; 19; 31; 55; ____.
13. 2; 4; 3; 9; 4; 16; 5; ____.
14. 2; 6; 8; 5; 3; 7; 10; 9; 1; 5; ____.
15. 3; 12; 4; 7; 21; 3; 2; 24; 12; 6; 30; ____.

Numbers in the following series follow a certain arrangement. Your task is to find out the missing numbers in questions.

16. 2, 1, 6, 3, 2, 7, 4, 3, 8, ____, ____.
17. 5, 10, 17, 26, 37, 50, ____, ____.
18. 2, 2, 4, 12, 60, ____, ____.
19. 2, 4, 7, 14, 17, 34, 37, ____, ____.
20. 1/8, 1/4, 3/4, 3, 15, ____, ____.
21. 4, 8, 16, 20, 40, 44, ____, ____.

22. 2, 5, 15, 18, 54, 57, ____, ____.
 23. 3, 12, 4, 16, 5, 20, 6, ____, ____.
 24. 25, 50, 27, 53, 29, 56, ____, ____.
 25. 473, 528, 585, 644, ____.

Numbers in the following series follow a certain arrangement. Your task is to find out the right number in each series for the question-mark.

26. 96; 92; 84; 72; ?; 36.
 27. 5; ?; 14; 4; 8; 12; 3; 7; 10; 2; 6; 8.
 28. 0; 3; 8; 15; 24; 35; ?
 29. 2; 2; 4; 3; 12; 4; 48; 5; ?
 30. 5; ?; 10; 14; 15; 21; 20; 28.
 31. 99; 81; 97; 82; ?; 83; 93; 84; 91; 85.
 32. 31; 32; 35; 40; 47; ?; 67.
 33. 81; 82; 80; ?; 79; 84; 78; 85.
 34. 1; 3; 6; 10; 15; 21; ?; 36; 45.
 35. 1; 1; 2; 6; 24; 120; 720; ?.

ANSWERS & EXPLANATIONS

1. 5. Add numbers first and second to get the third one.
2. 77. The arrangement is 7×3 ; 8×4 ; 9×5 ; 10×6 ; 11×7 ...
3. 85. There are two series, 80, 85, 90... and 40, 44, 48...
4. 5. There are two series, 2, 4, 6, 8... and 20, 10, 5, 2.5.
5. 27. Numbers 1, 2, 3, 4, 5... are added to the numbers of the series by turns.
6. 33. Numbers 3, 6, 9, 12... are added and subtracted by turns.
7. 8. The series has sets of three numbers, $4 \times 5 = 20$, $5 \times 6 = 30$...
8. 111. Number 7 is deducted from each number.
9. 146. Squares of no. 1, 2, 3 i.e. 1, 4, 9, 16... are added to numbers by turns.
10. 120. There are two series, 24, 26, 28... and 114, 117, 120...
11. 8. The series are formed by alternate occurrence of two series, 4, 8, 12... and 52, 39, 26, (go on deducting 13).
12. 103. Go on adding 3, 6, 12, 24, 48 to numbers.
13. 25. Each second number is the square of its preceding number.
14. 6. Numbers are in sets of five each, the last one joining the next set too and two numbers on right and left of the middle number are added to get it.
15. 5. Make sets of three; multiply the first and the third number to get the number in the middle.
16. (5, 4). There are three series 2, 3, 4, ...; 1, 2, 3, ...; 6, 7, 8, ...
17. (65, 82). The figure to be added is increasing by two every time.
18. (420, 4620). Figures are being multiplied by prime numbers taken in order.
19. (74, 77). Go on multiplying by 2 and adding 3.
20. (90, 630). Go on multiplying by 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 etc.
21. (88, 92). Add 4 and then multiply by 2. Go on repeating this.
22. (171, 174). Add 3 and then multiply by 3. Go on repeating this.
23. (24, 7). There is one series of 3, 4, 5, 6 etc and the other is 12, 16, 20, 24 etc i.e., increasing by 4.

24. 31, 59. There are two series 25, 27, 29... and 50, 53, 56...
 25. 705. It is 43×11 , 44×12 , 45×13 , 46×14 , 47×15 ...
 26. 56. Go on subtracting 4, 8, 12, 16... from numbers.
 27. 9. The numbers are in sets of three; $5, 9 = 14$; $4, 8 = 12$...
 28. 48. The sequence $1^2 - 1$; $2^2 - 1$; $3^2 - 1$...
 29. 240. $2 \times 2 = 4$; $4 \times 3 = 12$; $12 \times 4 = 48$; $48 \times 5 = 240$.
 30. 7. There are two series, 5, 10, 15... and 7, 14, 21...
 31. 95. The sequence has two series arranged alternately 99, 97, 95... and 81, 82, 83...
 32. 56. Go on adding 1, 3, 5, 7... to numbers.
 33. 83. Go on adding 1, subtracting 2, adding 3, subtracting 4... to numbers.
 34. 28. Go on adding 1, 2, 3, 4, 5... to numbers.
 35. 5040. Multiply first number by 1, second by 2, third by 3 and so on.

ANALYTICAL REASONING

CODING DE-CODING

1. If GARDEN is coded as FBQEDO, decode: OBHOSFQ
 2. If according to a certain code PAINTER is written as 3528617 which of the following is the right code for TANRPEI?

- | | |
|-------------|-------------|
| (a) 6587312 | (b) 6583721 |
| (c) 6587132 | (d) 6583712 |
| (e) 6583724 | |

3. If PLANETS is 4823579, SNLEPAT would be:

- | | |
|-------------|-------------|
| (a) 9385247 | (b) 9384527 |
| (c) 9385472 | (d) 9385427 |
| (e) 9385742 | |

If:

nad lad zad means Children like fun.
 zad jad kad means We like icecreams.
 jad tad nad means Children want icecreams.

4. What is the code word for children?

- | | |
|---------|---------|
| (a) lad | (b) nad |
| (c) zad | (d) tad |

5. What does 'lad' mean?

- | | |
|--------------|---------------|
| (a) children | (b) fun |
| (c) like | (d) icecreams |

If according to a certain code:

'hop mop sop dop' means 'Mohan is in Agra'.
 'nop cop mop gop' means 'Mohan should come here'.
 'rop zop dop cop' means 'Roshan is here today'.
 'sop nop zop pop' means 'Roshan should visit Agra'.

6. What is the code for Agra?
7. What does 'rop' mean?
8. Which word in the code means 'come'?

According to a certain code:

'I received a letter', means 'We saw an aircraft.'
 'John received one too', means 'The aircraft is blue.'
 'John loves long letters', means 'Captain saw blue flag.'
 'I like long one', means 'We believe the captain.'

9. What does the word 'received' in the code mean?

- | | |
|--------------|----------|
| (a) we | (b) saw |
| (c) aircraft | (d) blue |

10. What word is coded as 'believe'?

- (a) I (b) like
(c) long (d) one

11. What does John mean?

- (a) aircraft (b) captain
(c) blue (d) is

12. What will be the code for 'The Captain'?

- (a) long letter (b) received one
(c) loves long (d) long one

If in a certain code:

cat bat fat means 'boys are hungry'.

mat hat pat means 'girls had cakes'.

bat fat pat rat means 'hungry boys ate cakes' and

cat pat sat means 'cakes are cheap', what are the code

words for:

13. boys
14. girls
15. cakes
16. hungry

17. If according to a certain code, JOHN is IPGO, decode:

RUHDI

Read the code carefully and decode the message given below:

code: We are coming

Yg ctg eqokpi

18. Message: fcpigt cijgf

If in a certain code

CALCUTTA is ACCLTUAT, decode:

19. RSNIGARA

20. OBBMYA

21. ANPGRU

22. If in a certain code 'CROSS' is 'ATMUQ', decode:

PGRTCCR

If in a certain code BOTHER is 013579, decode the following number:

23. 35910

24. In a certain code LUCK is KVBL, now decode the following: RJKWDS IVAJKFF

25. If according to a certain code:

CONGRATULATIONS is BPMHOBSVKBSJNOR

decode the message:

GBOQX ODX XFZS

If according to a certain code, LONDON is KPMENO, decode:

26. LPRDNX

27. AFQMHO

28. If according to a certain code 'ATONCE is AVOPDE', decode the following message:

DONE AT GATV AT ZOU DAP

If according to a certain code:

'mar tar gar zar' means 'Can we start immediately'.

'har zar par dar' means 'No you start tomorrow'.

'dar sar kar tar' means 'Can you come here'.

'yar par mar sar' means 'No we stay here'.

29. What is the code for 'stay'?

- (a) yar (b) par
(c) mar (d) sar

30. What does 'dar' mean?

- (a) no (b) can
(c) you (d) start

Messages on the right are coded on the left. Study the code and answer the questions that follow.

'Ducks can swim fast' means 'Train is carrying arms'.

'Swans will fly fast' means 'Arms are not good'.

'Tortoise will swim far' means 'Men are carrying food'.

'Ducks should fly far' means 'Food is not needed'.

31. What does 'swans' stand for?

- (a) arms (b) are
(c) not (d) good

32. What is the code for 'food'?

- (a) tortoise (b) far
(c) ducks (d) fly

33. The word 'should' in the code means:

- (a) not (b) food
(c) needed (d) is

34. What will be the code for 'Men carrying arms'?

- (a) ducks swim fast
(b) tortoise swim fast
(c) swans swim far
(d) tortoise fly far

The words PRIMARY and COUNTRY have been coded in five different ways. Your task is to match the parts that follow the same code:

PRIMARY

COUNTRY

35. PSINASY

(a) OCUNTYR

36. PQHMZQY

(b) AMVOUPW

37. RPIMAYR

(c) CNTNSQY

38. NPGKYPW

(d) CPUOTSY

39. NPJNBPW

(e) AMSLRPW

In questions 40 to 44, the word 'MOTHER' has been coded in five different ways, the same codes have been given for the word 'REASON' but not in the same order. Your task is to match the right parts.

MOTHER

REASON

40. NNUGFQ

(A) PEYUMP

41. TOMREH

(B) PCYQML

42. KQRJCT

(C) AERNOS

43. NQWLJX

(D) SDBRPM

44. KMRFCP

(E) SGDWT

Words on the left are written in a certain code on the right. Find out the coded letter for letter in the box in each question:

45. E D I T O R

- (a) c (b) m (c) b (d) w (e) t
(f) s

46. R E C O R D

- (a) m (b) b (c) w (d) l (e) s
(f) b

47. S T R I K E

- (a) b (b) t (c) a (d) c (e) m
(f) g

48. S P R O U T

- (a) c (b) k (c) w (d) b (e) d
(f) a

49. P **A** N T R Y
(a) n (b) d (c) b (d) h (e) c
(f) x
50. C A R B **O** N
(a) c (b) w (c) h (d) b (e) x
(f) l
51. S T R O N **G**
(a) p (b) b (c) w (d) x (e) a
(f) c

ANSWERS

- | | | |
|------------|---------|---------|
| 1. PAINTER | 2. (a) | 3. (d) |
| 4. (b) | 5. (b) | 6. sop |
| 7. today | 8. gop | 9. (c) |
| 10. (b) | 11. (c) | 12. (d) |
| 13. bat | 14. hat | 15. pat |
| 16. fat | | |
17. STICK. First, third and fifth... letters are represented by the preceding letters, others by the letters that follow them in the alphabetic order.
18. DANGER AHEAD 19. Srinagar
20. Bombay 21. Nagpur
- Note: The code is:
- | | |
|----------|----------|
| CALCUTTA | ACCLTUAT |
| 123456 | 21436587 |
22. RETREAT
23. THROB
24. SILVER JUBILEE
The first, third, fifth letters are represented by the letter preceding and the 2nd, 4th, 6th letters by the letters following them.
25. HAPPY NEW YEAR
The first letter in the code precedes the letter in the message, the second in the next letter. The process repeats itself.
26. MOSCOW
27. BERLIN. The first letter is the preceding letter and the second, the next one. The same order continues.
28. COME AS FAST AS YOU CAN.
Vowels (a, e, i, o and u) do not change. Every consonant is the next consonant in the alphabetic order.
- | | | | |
|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| 29. (a) | 30. (c) | 31. (d) | 32. (b) |
| 33. (c) | 34. (b) | 35. (d) | 36. (c) |
| 37. (a) | 38. (c) | 39. (b) | 40. D |
| 41. C | 42. A | 43. E | 44. B |
| 45. (f) | 46. (d) | 47. (f) | 48. (a) |
| 49. (d) | 50. (b) | 51. (a) | |

CLERICAL APTITUDE

Which one of the following names is not similar to others?

1. (a) Santosh Kumar Mohanta
(b) Santosh Kumar Mohanta
(c) Santosh Kumar Mahanta
(d) Santosh Kumar Mohanta
2. (a) Ravinder Chand Jain
(b) Ravinder Chand Jain

- (c) Ravindra Chand Jain
(d) Ravinder Chand Jain
3. (a) Kali Charan Shukla
(b) Kali Charan Shakula
(c) Kali Charan Shukla
(d) Kali Charan Shukla
 4. (a) Romesh Chander Bhandari
(b) Ramesh Chander Bhandari
(c) Ramesh Chander Bhandari
(d) Ramesh Chander Bhandari
 5. (a) Govind Ram Kapoor
(b) Gobind Ram Kapoor
(c) Gobind Ram Kapoor
(d) Gobind Ram Kapoor

Which of the two addresses in the questions given below are exactly similar?

6. (a) Raj Kumar Jain
47, Sector 5, Panchkula
(b) Raj Kumar Jain
47, Sector 6, Panchkula
(c) Raj Kumar Jain
46, Sector 6, Panchkula
(d) Raj Kumar Jain
47, Sector 6, Panchkula
(e) Raja Kumar Jain
46, Sector 5, Panchkula
(f) Raj Kumar Jain
48, Sector 6, Panchkula
7. (a) Sunny Dewan
316, Sector 22-A, Chandigarh
(b) Sunny Dewan
613, Sector 22-B, Chandigarh
(c) Sunny Diwan
316, Sector 22-A, Chandigarh
(d) Sunny Dewan
163, Sector 22-A, Chandigarh
(e) Sunny Diwan
316, Sector 22-A, Chandigarh
(f) Sunny Diwan
613, Sector 22-A, Chandigarh
8. (a) Sagar Chand Gupta
House No. 4125/20
Punjabi Mohalla, Ambala Cantt
(b) Sagar Chand Gupta
House No. 4215/20
Panjabi Mohalla, Ambala Cantt
(c) Sagar Chander Gupta
House No. 4512/20
Punjabi Mohalla, Ambala Cantt
(d) Sagar Chand Gupta
House No. 4125/20
Panjabi Mohalla, Ambala Cantt
(e) Sagar Chand Gupta
House No. 4125/20
Punjabi Mohalla, Ambala Cantt
(f) Sagar Chander Gupta
House No. 4152/20
Punjabi Mohalla, Ambala Cantt

9. (a) Madhorai Scindia
318, Safdarjang Enclave, New Delhi
(b) Mahadev Rao Scindia
318, Safdarjang Enclave, New Delhi
(c) Madhav Rao Scindia
813, Safdarjung Enclave, New Delhi
(d) Madhav Rao Scindia
813, Safdarjung Enclave, New Delhi
(e) Madhorai Scindia
318, Safdarjung Enclave, New Delhi
(f) Mahadeorai Scindia
318, Safdarjang Enclave, New Delhi
10. (a) Jivaji R. Mehta
Sardar Patel Marg
Ballard Estate, Bombay
(b) Jivaji R. Mehta
Sardar Patel Marg
Ballard Estate, Bombay
(c) Jivajee R. Mehta
Sardar Patel Marg
Ballards Estate, Bombay
(d) Jivajee R. Mehta
Sardar Patel Marg
Ballard Estates, Bombay
(e) Jivaji R. Mehta
Sardar Patel Marg
Ballard Estate, Bombay
(f) Jivaje R. Mehta
Sardar Patel Marg
Ballards Estate, Bombay
11. (a) Ashok Kumar Ganguli
318, Chittaranjan Avenue, Calcutta
(b) Asok Kumar Ganguli
318, Chittaranjan Avenue, Calcutta
(c) Ashok Kumar Gangauli
138, Chittaranjan Avenue, Calcutta
(d) Asok Kumar Gangauli
138, Chitaranjan Avenue, Calcutta
(e) Ashok Kumar Gangauli
138, Chitaranjan Avenue, Calcutta
(f) Asok Kumar Ganguli
318, Chittaranjan Avenue, Calcutta.

Which two in the following questions are exactly alike?

12. (a) Dr Pratap Rai Chowdhari,
2/317, Rajendra Marg,
Kirti Nagar. (Distt Chetna)
(b) Dr Pratap Rai Chawdhari,
2/317, Rajendra Marg,
Keerti Nagar. (Distt Chetna)
(c) Dr Pratap Roy Chowdhari,
2/317, Rajendra Marg,
Keerti Nagar. (Disst Chetna)
(d) Mr Pratap Rai Chowdhari,
2/317, Rajendra Marg,
Kirti Nagar. (Distt Chetna)
(e) Dr Pratap Rai Chawdhari,
2/317, Rajendra Marg,
Keerti Nagar. (Distt Chetna)

- (f) Dr Pratap Rai Chaudhari,
3/217, Kirti Nagar,
Rajendra Marg. (Distt Chetna)
13. (a) Manmohan & Sons,
Shop No. 5/326, Kabir Bazar, Jayantipur.
(b) Man Mohan & Sons,
Shop No. 5/326, Kabir Bazaar, Jayantipur.
(c) Man Mohan & Sons,
Shop No. 5/326, Kabeer Bazar, Jayantipur.
(d) Man Mohan & Sons,
Shop No. 5/362, Kabir Bazaar, Jayanthipur.
(e) Manmohan & Sons,
Shop No. 5/326, Kabeer Bazar, Jayantipur.
(f) Man Mohan & Sons,
Shop No. 5/326, Kabir Bazaar, Jayantipur.
14. (a) Dharam Singh Verma,
3/17, Veer Ganj, Sunder Nagar.
(b) Dharma Singh Verma,
3/17, Vir Ganj, Sunder Nagar.
(c) Dharma Singh Verma,
3/17, Veer Ganj, Sunder Nagar.
(d) Dharma Singh Varma,
3/17, Veer Ganj, Sunder Nagar.
(e) Dharam Singh Varma,
3/17, Vir Ganj, Sunder Nagar.
(f) Dharma Singh Varma,
3/17, Veer Ganj, Sunder Nagar.
15. (a) KAMLESH SUITINGS,
SARIS FOR BRIDES,
SALWAR KAMIZ ON 20% DISCOUNT
(b) KAMLESH SUITINGS,
SAREES FOR BRIDES,
SALWAR QAMIZ ON 20% DISCOUNT
(c) KAMLESH SUITINGS,
SARIS FOR BRIDES,
SALWAR KAMIZ ON 20% DISCOUNT
(d) KAMALESH SUTTINGS,
SAREES FOR BRIDES,
SALVAR QAMIZ ON 20% DISCOUNT
(e) KAMLESH SUITINGS,
SAREES FOR BRIDES,
SALWAR QAMIZ ON 20% DISCOUNT
(f) KAMALESH SUITINGS,
SAREES FOR BRIDES,
SALWAR QAMIZ ON 20% DISCOUNT

Given below are roll numbers of 60 candidates registered at different centres for an examination. The first two digits from the left stand for the Central code and the next four for the serial number of the candidate registered at the centre. Now study the given sample of roll numbers and answer the questions from 16 to 22 based on this sample.

200030	200050	200330	252240	252592
257721	257790	265201	208209	200870
201010	201391	210971	261402	359603
218130	219119	268417	381371	380425
391907	255354	276308	214509	200315
231394	284806	284751	391572	285310
391017	387431	269672	276064	231091

209440 241830 256540 257030 259670
 260927 261416 263095 267343 290380
 263020 293146 297521 299562 327014
 333185 338045 346084 370685 377380
 394312 394185 394276 395973 269991

16. How many centres are represented in this sample?

(a) 16 (b) 18 (c) 19 (d) 21

17. Irrespective of the centres, how many serial numbers are above 1000 in this sample?

(a) 40 (b) 50 (c) 42 (d) 52

18. How many centres are there with single candidate enrolment?

(a) 5 (b) 4 (c) 3 (d) 1

19. How many centres are there with two candidates each?

(a) 2 (b) 3 (c) 4 (d) 5

20. Which centre has the smallest serial number?

(a) 32 (b) 39 (c) 37 (d) 20

21. Which centre has four candidates?

(a) 26 (b) 27 (c) 29 (d) 39

22. Which centre has the highest enrolment?

(a) 39 (b) 20 (c) 26 (d) 25

ANSWERS

- | | | |
|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| 1. (c) | 2. (c) | 3. (b) |
| 4. (a) | 5. (a) | 6. (b) & (d) |
| 7. (c) & (e) | 8. (a) & (c) | 9. (c) & (d) |
| 10. (a) & (e) | 11. (b) & (f) | 12. (b) & (e) |
| 13. (b) & (f) | 14. (d) & (f) | 15. (b) & (e) |
| 16. (a) | 17. (b) | 18. (b) |
| 19. (c) | 20. (d) | 21. (c) |
| 22. (c) | | |

NON-VERBAL OR ABSTRACT REASONING ABILITY

MATCHING FIGURES

Each figure in questions given below has its counterpart in A, B, C, D and E which, if added to the figure in the question, will form a square. Your task is to match the right parts.

- | | |
|----|---|
| 1. | A |
| 2. | B |
| 3. | C |

4. D

5. E

The figures given in questions 6 to 10 have certain similarities with the figures given in A, B, C, D and E. Your task is to match the right parts.

6. A

7. B

8. C

9. D

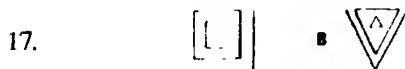
10. E

Match the right parts:

- | | |
|-----|---|
| 11. | A |
| 12. | B |
| 13. | C |



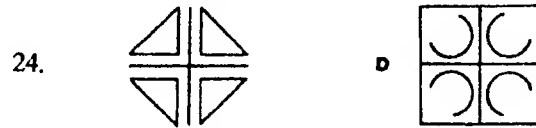
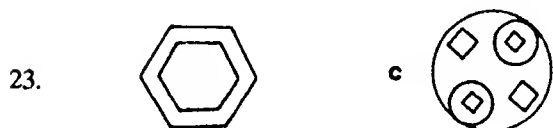
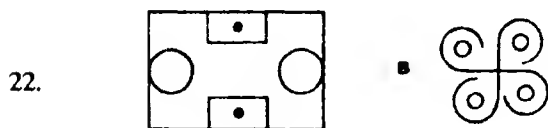
Match the right parts:



Each figure in questions 21 to 25 has some common properties with one of the figures in the "Matching Figures". Match the right choice.

QUESTION FIGURES

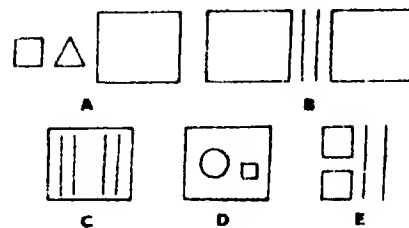
MATCHING FIGURES



Study the signs given below and find out which figure from A, B, C, D and E represents the sets given in questions 26 to 30.

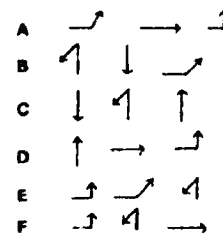


26. Punjab, Ravi, Sutlej.
27. Jamuna, Delhi, Agra.
28. Rajasthan, Chambal, M.P.
29. Hyderabad, Kanchanjanga, Kerala.
30. Kashmir, Mansarovar, Srinagar.



Each arrow depicts a human posture, the arrow head (A) showing the head. Match the right choice of figures with questions.

31. standing : lying : sitting.
32. bending : standing on head : reclining
33. sitting : reclining : bending
34. standing on head : bending : standing
35. reclining : lying : sitting


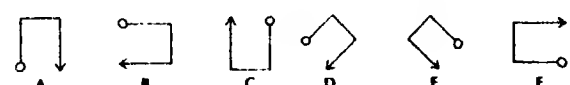
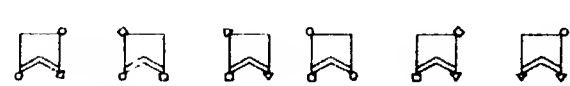
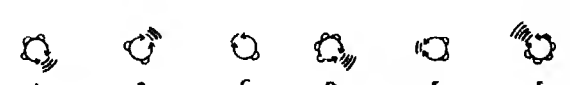
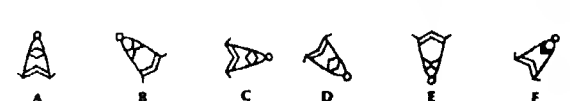


ANSWERS

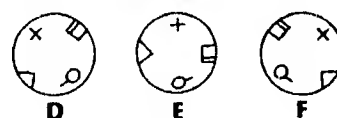
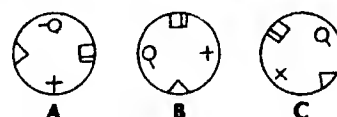
1. D 2. A 3. E 4. C
5. B
6. E. Half the figure is interlocked with the main figure.
7. C. The same figure overlap over each other.
8. D. The other figure has one side less.
9. B. The number of small lines outside the figure is double as compared to the lines inside.
10. A. Lines outside the figure are one more in number as compared to the lines that cross each other inside the figure.
11. B. One figure has one side less.
12. D. Figures have the same shape.
13. E. The arrangement follows the same pattern.
14. A. Same type of figures are inside one another.
15. C. Same type of figure with smaller sides is inside the bigger one.
- 16 to 20. The arrangement depends upon the number of extra sides and less number of sides as compared to the major figure.
16. D 17. C 18. A 19. E
20. B
21. D. The circle, in each of the quarter parts, has half squares while the square has semi-circles.
22. C. The four sided figures and circles are reversed.
23. E. Both figures have six sides with a double line.
24. B. Both have the same pattern.
25. A. Both have three parts with a small figure inside.
26. C 27. E 28. B 29. A
30. D 31. D 32. B 33. E
34. C 35. A

ODD-MAN OUT

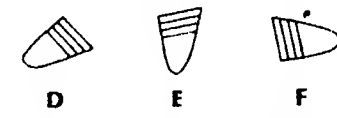
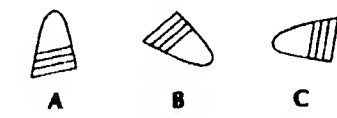
Find the odd-man out:

1. 
2. 
3. 
4. 
5. 

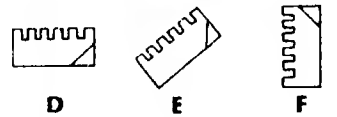
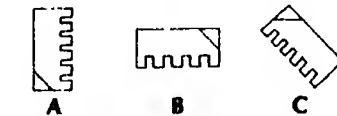
6.



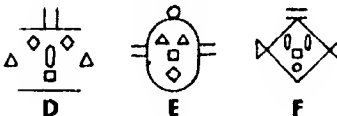
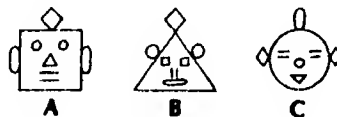
7.



8.



9.



10.



ANSWERS

1. D. Lines are in wrong direction.
2. E. Figures at the ends are wrong.
3. F. Figures at diagonal ends should be the same.
4. B. The number of arcs and knobs should be the same.
5. F. Two lines near the circle are in wrong direction.
6. E. Circle should point towards triangle and line in the square should be towards the + side.
7. C. The slanting lines are in opposite direction.
8. B. One tooth is lacking and line is on the other side.
9. D. All features should have different forms. Here face and cap, both are parallel lines.
10. C. Pattern of lines is wrong.

Argumentative Questions on Social and Economic Problems

New Threats to India's Security

Q. The U.S.A.'s new 20-billion dollar arms deal with Saudi Arabia, the biggest such transaction in history, is not only a threat to peace and stability in the Middle East but also poses a major threat to India's security. Give reasons *For* and *Against* this view.

Ans. Sales of massive quantities of weapons by any country to another, especially in a volatile region such as West Asia, is a grave threat to peace at all times, but it is particularly dangerous at the present juncture which is full of explosive possibilities. The wide world, including the major trouble-spots, have had only a short respite since the end of the Cold War a notable feature of which was the furtive preparations for a major armed conflict even while there were talk of peace. The "cloak and dagger policy" had disastrous possibilities. The massive arms contracts entered into by the Big Powers carried the seeds of war. There was a full-scale competition in buying weapons. The U.S. decision to supply massive quantities of a variety of weapons to Saudi Arabia is bound to start the suicidal arms race all over again. It poses a threat to India too.

Arguments For the View

1. So important is the continuing prosperity of the arms industry to the U.S. and other major weapon manufacturers that the authorities are always prepared to feed a disastrous race and thus play with the lives of millions of people in the Third World. The arms industry seems to pull the strings and control governmental decisions, regardless of the consequences.

2. The US administration must

be aware of the terrible consequences and repercussions of their weapons deal; one such deal inevitably leads to others, thus creating a vicious circle. Israel has been assured further supplies of F-15s and other equipment. The possibility of a good part of these deadly weapons finding their way from Saudi Arabia to Islamabad to be used against India cannot be ruled out.

3. India pursues a policy of peace and goes all out to create an atmosphere of amity so as to avert the possibilities of a conflict but it cannot afford to ignore the flow of massive quantities of weapons into neighbouring countries. Such deals pose a direct threat to our defence and security, and will compel India to divert a part of her precious resources from development purposes to the purchase of armaments.

4. Already, Israel, a major US protégé, has asked for matching supplies of weapons from Washington to counter the bloated arsenal of the Arabs. Other arms manufacturers in various parts of the world, including Europe, the Soviet Union and China, are waiting in the wings to sign arms contracts. Thus the stage has been set for another world war even while the Super Powers recently reached agreements for avoiding all conflicts in various parts of the world. Massive sales of weapons virtually undo all peace efforts.

Arguments Against the View

1. Although India does not occupy the same important position in the Soviet Union's global military strategy as it did before during the Cold War years, the Indo-Soviet Friendship Treaty, 1971, still stands. The Soviet Union may therefore be

relied upon to come to our rescue if this country is attacked by Pakistan or any other country. The specific understanding has not been abrogated.

2. The US military transactions and other diplomatic moves are not designed against India even indirectly. These moves on the international chess-board are a part of the manoeuvres against Iraq, a sworn enemy of Washington. India does not come into the picture at all. There is no reason for India to get panicky and to join the arms race.

3. In this connection, it is just as well that the National Front Government has decided to set up a National Security Council. A national consensus is to be sought on all security and strategic issues. Our Prime Ministers are capable of handling defence and security matters quite well. Some instances are: our cordial relations with most Middle East nations; the Bangladesh war, the merger of Sikkim, the nuclear issue, the improvement in relations with the U.S.A. and normalisation of relations with China. Our forces are well equipped to meet all contingencies.

Re-born U.N. — World's Only Hope

Q. "The new, invigorated United Nations, currently more effective than ever before, is the world's only hope of peace in a conflict-prone, sorely troubled world." Give arguments *For* and *Against* this view in the context of the latest developments.

Ans. During the long years of frustration—a direct sequel to the infamous Cold War—the United Nations proved to be a dismal failure in resolving international disputes and maintaining peace in the trouble-spots. No wonder, peace-loving people lost con-

fidence in the world organisation, especially because its functioning was dominated by the Big Powers and the majority of its members found that their voice remained unheard and their grievances remained unredressed. Since 1988, however, the U.N. has emerged as a successful organisation. On current showing, this giant body seems to be the best hope of humanity for avoiding war and maintaining peace. Many people, however, fear that, as in the past, the UN would be dominated by one or both the Super Powers. History would then repeat itself and the U.N. would again become a mere debating society without teeth.

Arguments For the View

1. The prospects of the United Nations becoming really effective and fulfilling its basic aims of maintaining peace are now much greater because the Cold War has been officially declared dead. The Giant Powers—the U.S.A. and the Soviet Union—are acting in unison and in full cooperation in most international matters. Thus the basic causes that led to the UN's failure are virtually gone and the stage has been set for a new decade of peace.

2. The American perception of the world organisation has changed dramatically because of the transformation in the general official and public approach. The US Government now realises that the UN can prove very effective in resolving regional disputes also. The UN successes in resolving the pointless Iraq-Iran War (1980-88), bringing the Afghanistan conflict to an end and settling several other issues without acrimonious debates, has been happily noted by everyone.

3. The latest success of the UN, which has invigorated it and put a new life into the virtually non-functioning body, is the prompt action taken by it in regard to the Gulf crisis caused by the blatant Iraqi invasion of tiny Kuwait.

Arguments Against the View

1. The recent successes of the UN are due solely to the fact that the

interests of the Super Powers, the US and the USSR, coincide. Both of them, like other Western and Eastern countries, with very few exceptions, were on the same side of the fence. So the UN Council decisions were unanimous and prompt. Such cordiality, accord and identity of interests may not come about on every issue.

2. The UN action so far taken is only by the Security Council where the "Big Five" are in command, as usual. In the General Assembly the majority comprises the Third World which is mostly hostile to the US whose blatant show of might in the Middle East, on the seas and in the air, has led to several complications.

3. At the moment, Mr Gorbachov and the Soviet Union are in domestic distress. The Soviet Union is in no position (because of its internal discords and economic crises) to assert itself against the mighty U.S. when there is total disagreement. Moreover, the Council which was constituted nearly four decades ago, does not truly reflect the realities of today. A new factor—strong Germany now reunited—is out of the picture. Nor is mighty Japan given its due place in international counsels.

"Exit" of Socialism

Q. The Soviet Union has reportedly decided to drop the word "Socialist" from its name; this word has apparently become unpopular in the Eastern Bloc where most members have turned against the Socialist-Communist doctrine as it was practised by Moscow. Give reasons *For* and *Against* this disapproval of the concept and practice of Socialism.

Ans. *Time was when the entire theory and practice of Socialism was quite popular, except in the highly prosperous capitalist world, especially the USA, West Germany, Britain, France and Japan. In these countries, concentration of the means of production and ownership in a few hands and the consequential exploitation of the labour class was accepted as in-*

evitable. Then came the mass awakening and revolution in the Soviet Union, followed soon by the other members of the Communist bloc, where the people became the real rulers and economic justice was assured. The latest trend of disowning socialism and communism, together with the adoption of the doctrine of free enterprise, private ownership of land and rebuffs to central control, are reactions to the excesses in socialist and communist countries.

Arguments For the View,

1. Excessive central control, authoritarian and dictatorial policies, the prolonged denial of free expression of views and of individual rights enjoyed by the people in democratic countries around the world were bound to have their repercussions in the States of the Eastern Bloc where there was rigid control and all the strings were pulled by a set of leaders at the top.

2. Many of the unhealthy, unjust practices of the West had crept into the socialist and communist world, causing much disillusionment and frustration. With the passage of time the realisation grew that the people living in democratic countries were happier, better off socially, politically and economically. Why then should the masses in socialist and communist countries suffer continuously? That was the question being repeatedly asked.

3. There was also the increasing corruption at the top. Reports spread (and they were not all baseless) of top communists, party bosses and leading members of the bureaucracy leading lives of luxury with the latest models of cars, all western-type conveniences of life, sizable private property and farms, sprawling mansions and bulging pockets of rulers who claimed to govern in the name of the masses. All this time the people generally were deprived of many conveniences of life. The resentment against the implicit injustice and disregard of the people's genuine interests became a scandalous phenomenon.

4. Socialism abolishes competi-

tion and establishes a huge State monopoly which tends to become a tyranny. Free competition is the real freedom in industrial matters; it is the only guarantee to the consumer that he would get what he wants and for which he is willing to pay in cash.

Arguments Against the View

1. The attractions of capitalism as practised in the USA and West Germany are superficial. Disillusionment sets in before long and the exploited, deprived classes rise in protest. The time is gone when such protests can be ignored year after year. The doctrine of social and economic justice, of housing facilities for everyone, free education and equality all round are certainly attractive to the masses.

2. Modified socialism under which there is no confiscation as such but compensation is paid for goods and property taken over by the State from rich people does have its appeal. It is significant that China, with its huge population, still sticks to socialism and has been able to ward off capitalistic and democratic trends which the Beijing leaders condemn as reactionary acts by renegades and violations of all that the Communist ideology stands for.

3. It is under the socialist system that work is made obligatory for all; besides the quantum of work is reduced to the minimum for all. There is equitable distribution all round and glaring disparities are redressed. The worker, guaranteed the basic necessities, gets the leisure he relishes.

Students & National Regeneration

Q. "Top Indian educationists have drawn up a scheme to suspend teaching and other activities in colleges for a year to facilitate "mass action" for national regeneration." Give arguments For and Against this scheme.

Ans. The country suffers from many drawbacks and it is felt that students can fill the gap by devoting a

whole year to activities for national resurgence. Illiteracy stalks the land; women are denied even basic rights; there is abysmal poverty and destitution. There are health problems galore and the masses are steeped in ignorance. Some revolutionary scheme is urgently needed to ensure all-round national resurgence.

Arguments For the View

1. The situation in the country has deteriorated fast and radical steps are called for to reinvigorate the dying soul of India. Mass action is needed; the involvement of the vast body of students is essential for a non-official national campaign.

2. A new India would be born and there would be a revolutionary transformation when there is a massive nation-wide drive. Some 200 to 300 million people would be made literate in one year by the "social brigade" comprising students, teachers, principals, vice-chancellors, office workers in universities, retired army and civil personnel and members of voluntary agencies who are proposed to be involved and motivated to work in major fields.

3. Official health, literacy and other constructive campaigns have brought little gain. The crores of rupees spent on them have virtually gone down the drain. The new scheme would inculcate self-esteem and a sense of purpose.

4. The support of all political parties will be sought so as to avoid giving the scheme a partisan colour. The expectation of the sponsors, including Dr P.N. Haksar and Dr Malcolm Adiseshiah, is that the movement will have the same extensive support as the call for a national drive made by Mahatma Gandhi, and later Mr Jayaprakash Narayan, had for non-cooperation, civil disobedience and a silent revolution.

5. Preliminary studies done by the core group of organisers indicate that 40 lakh college and university students and teachers would be available if the mass action proposal goes through. Another 10 lakh educated

functionaries of colleges and educational administration would also be available. If pre-degree colleges and "plus 2" students are drawn into the programme, there would be another 50 lakh volunteers. Together, it would be a formidable force.

Arguments Against the proposal

1. Past experience of such ambitious schemes has been far from encouraging. The students suffer irreparable loss of studies because of the year-long interruption during which they forget what they have learnt.

2. During the civil disobedience movement and "J.P." revolutionary campaign, the students suffered grievously and they could not resume their studies when the largely abortive movements were ultimately called off. Moreover, young men often turn violent and create law and order problems.

3. Students and others who participate in such social service would demand diplomas and degrees without passing any examination; in fact, examinations would have to be written off as a pointless exercise amidst such diversions and pre-occupations. Awards of degrees to such volunteers would make a mockery of the education system.

4. Members of such social service brigades would naturally demand remunerative employment after the one-year period of national service is over. The Government would find it almost impossible to create lakhs of jobs for such ill-trained, ill-qualified youth.

5. It is not necessary to arrange a year off for young boys and girls to get to know India. A month's tour of all important centres and also the countryside would be enough. TV and Radio are already acquainting viewers with the life and people of various regions. Besides, there are several youth organisations which can be utilised for constructive activity. At present most of these bodies exist only on paper.

MODEL PARAGRAPHS

"Credulity is the man's weakness but the child's strength."

-Charles Lamb

Credulity in children symbolises innocence and purity of mind whereas its presence in men condemns them for their immaturity and mental imbalances. Children by nature are credulous and given to believe in myths and fantasies because their belief is skin-deep and thus a source of their excitement and exultation. Among men, the tendency to swallow all heresy or rumour as authentic and articulate is a sign of their intellectual bankruptcy and a lack of rational behaviour. Too much of readiness to be taken in by any gossip or make-believe renders them vulnerable to deception and despair. Like a noose round their necks, they are a butt of every clever guy's game of double-talk and double-dealing. In the all-pervasive atmosphere of corruption and corrosion of values and 'no-holds barred' for self-aggrandisement, credulity among men has become a powerful instrument of self-promotion at the hands of unscrupulous and inscrutable characters. In fact by playing foul with a child's credulity, one demeans and debases oneself but by playing the same trick with men's credulity, one hopes to derive sadistic pleasure.

"It is the voice of our desire which haunts our dreams."

-Robert Bridges

A desire determines our mode of reflection, which in turn dictates our actions from cradle to the grave. Human desire is the most vociferous instinct and therefore it is an inalienable part of our earthy existence. Whatever be our state of mind and social status, desires keep on multiplying and this ferocious fact of life makes us restive both in fair and in foul weather. Most of the time we remain attuned to the voice

of our desires and refuse to listen to the music of silence heard only in sanity and in the state of contentment. Human dreams are but an intangible manifestation of our past, present and future desires. If we suffer from sleeplessness, it is due to the frequent haunt of our desires which shape and sharpen our dreams. Unfulfilled desires not only render the fountain of life sad and sordid but also keep us on our toes and make us burn with envy and anxiety. No doubt, desire is at the root of all human passion-cum-pursuit for noble as well as ignoble deeds and more nefarious is the desire, darker is the dream. Human desires if allowed to breed unchecked, can cause irreparable damage to our psyche and sub-conscious mind because desires and dreams are inseparable from each other.

"Nothing hinders a cure so much as frequent change of medicine."

-Seneca

Changing the horse or the boat mid-stream is like changing the medicine under the stress of circumstances or in the face of some imaginary danger dangling its ugly head before us. Both for physical as well as spiritual health, nothing works as effectively as one's firm faith in oneself and also in the preceptor or the healer. More than anything else in the world, it is the trust coupled with patience that heals our wounds and sweatens the venom of life that we are administered by tameless time and macabre milieu every now and then. If in desperation, we resort to changing the physician as well as his prescription too frequently and too soon, we are bound to suffer, not only physical ruin but also spiritual sterility. Slow and steady administration of medicine into the ailing body is a time-tested panacea, the

veracity of which is nearly beyond any doubt. On the other hand, quick and frequent change of potion may lift our drooping spirits for some time only to make us bear its after effects later on. The remedy of life's many ills and irritations lies in our dormant strength to carry on the burden that falls on our shoulders and thus acquit ourselves as trustworthy and self-reliant human beings.

"Small opportunities are often the beginning of great enterprises."

-Demosthenes

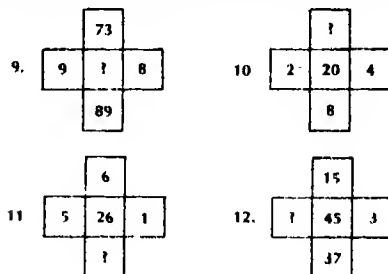
It is an old saying that 'great heights are not achieved in a single flight' nor are great achievements accomplished in a single day. If one is to gauge the glory and glamour of life, it should be done by adding small strides and meticulous measures that led to great enterprises and exceptional excellences. While looking up towards sky for inspiration and ultimate access to it, we should never lose sight of the fact that getting to the top is feasible only if we ascend upwards step-by-step and not by leaping up in a single stroke. It is not given to ordinary men and women to pluck the stars as easily as one may find that happening in poetry or love-making. Realities of life as we confront them, are harsh and heart-rending but it is due to man's stamina and strength that he has conquered the invincible Mount Everest and also set his foot on the surface of the Moon. Man started his career on this planet as a pygmy but slowly, steadily and surely he overcame the teething troubles of his earliest endeavours and with every move, he marched forward to reach the summit of success that fully illustrates the truth of the saying that "small opportunities are often the beginning of great enterprises".

TEST OF REASONING-I

Find out the missing numbers in the series given below:

1. 1; 2; 3; 1; 4; 9; ...; 8; 27.
2. 81; 9; 64; 8; 49; 7;
3. 37; 41; 49; ...; 77; 97.
4. 4; 9; 19; 39; ...; 159.
5. 1; 4; 5; 9; 14; ...; 37.
6. 113; 228; 115; 336; ...; 384; 203.
7. 3; 6; 6; 12; ...; 18; 12; 24; 15; 30.
8. 23; 26; 27; 29; 31; 32; 35; ...; 39.

Numbers in questions 9 to 12 follow the same arrangement. Your task is to find out the missing numbers:



Numbers in questions 13 to 16 have been arranged according to a definite pattern. You have to find out the missing numbers:

13.

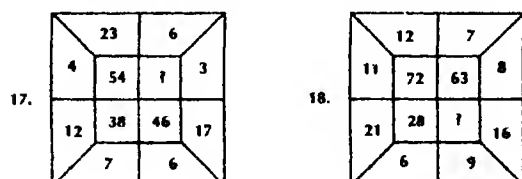
3	4	?
5	37	11
21	29	7
14.

12	30	9
8	73	17
48	68	?
15.

8	18	5
4	49	9
?	44	4
16.

21	32	11
2	?	13
168	191	8

Find out the missing numbers in questions 17 and 18.



LETTER SERIES

Given below is a wheel of letters. Study it and answer the questions that follow:

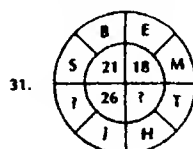
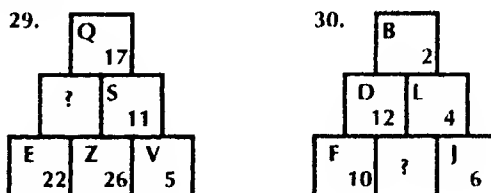


19. Which letter from the alphabets is missing here?
20. Which letter is exactly in the middle of 15th letter from A clockwise and 15th letter from Z anti-clockwise?
21. If all the letters were arranged in alphabetical order starting from A, clockwise, which letter will remain at its present place?
22. If all the letters from C to W (clockwise) were to be arranged alphabetically, which letter would take the place of N?
23. Which two letters, having a gap of two letters in the alphabetical order are two letters apart here as well?

Find the odd-man out:

24. (a) BdEg (b) PrSu (c) KmNp
(d) TwXz (e) HjKm
25. (a) CdaB (b) VwtU (c) LmjK
(d) RsqP (e) HifG
26. (a) MrW (b) ChN (c) KpU
(d) BgL (e) InS
27. (a) moqR (b) vxzA (c) jlnP
(d) dfhl (e) prtU
28. (a) yTw (b) hDf (c) jFh
(d) oKm (e) cAc

Find out the right set of number and letter for the blank box.



CODING-DECODING

Words on the left have been written in their coded form on right. Your task is to find out the right coded letter for the letter in the box.

32. C H O **S** E N

(a) b (b) g (c) k (d) m (e) y (f) t

33. S H O **U** L D

(a) t (b) y (c) n (d) s (e) h (f) b

34. S I L **V** E R

(a) s (b) w (c) b (d) x (e) g (f) c

35. **P** L I G H T

(a) y (b) v (c) d (d) w (e) s (f) u

36. T R **A** N C E

(a) g (b) z (c) m (d) v (e) k (f) x

37. S P R I **N** G

(a) u (b) x (c) d (d) k (e) b (f) w

38. **G** O L D E N

(a) h (b) k (c) t (d) g (e) d (f) s

39. If 'CHARGE' is coded as 'DJDVLK' decode 'SGWENT'.

STATISTICS

In the chart given below the number of cartons supplied to shop-keepers A, B, C and D and their sale for five consecutive months has been recorded. Answer questions 40 to 44 on the basis of the study of the chart.

Shop-keepers	Cartons	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY
A	Recd	230	255	232	274	309
	Sold	221	206	231	264	298
B	Recd	315	324	337	352	362
	Sold	298	319	319	343	341
C	Recd	408	447	452	463	470
	Sold	403	422	437	456	462
D	Recd	327	344	359	371	389
	Sold	318	323	353	357	379

40. During which two months is the number of unsold cartons the same?

- (a) Jan and March (b) March and April
(c) February and April (d) March and May

41. Find out the percentage of cartons that were sold by the four shop-keepers during the given period. (approximately)

- (a) 96% (b) 93%
(c) 98% (d) 92%

42. If the percentage of cartons sold is the criterion which shop-keeper is on the top?

(a) A

(b) B

(c) C

(d) D

43. Sale in March is approximately what per cent of the total sale?

- (a) 20.2% (b) 17.9%
(c) 19.8% (d) 21.1%

44. What per cent of the cartons were sold by A during the period of five months? (approximately)

- (a) 93.8% (b) 91.9%
(c) 89.6% (d) 90.5%

LOGICAL DIAGRAMS

Each of the following questions has three items which are represented on the right by circles, irrespective of their size. Your task is to match the right set of items with the right set of circles on the basis of their relationship.

45. oxygen : atmosphere : nitrogen



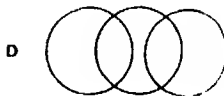
46. water : nitrogen : hydrogen



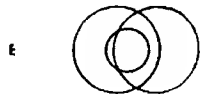
47. kitchen : clean : hotel



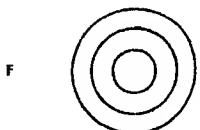
48. cloud : river : mountain



49. eggs : tree : nest

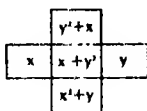


50. boys : college : infants



ANSWERS AND EXPLANATIONS

1. 1. The series has squares and then cubes of the first three numbers.
2. 36. Make sets of two and each first number is the square of its neighbour.
3. 61. Go on adding 4; 8; 12... to numbers.
4. 79. Go on adding 5; 10; 20... to numbers.
5. 23. Each number is the total of two preceding numbers.
6. 181. Each alternate number is the total of numbers on its right and left.
7. 9. There are two series: 3; 6; 9;... and 6; 12; 18...
8. 35. This question has two series too, one with a difference of 4 and the other with a difference of 3.
9. to 12. The arrangement of numbers is as follows:



9. 145 10. 18 11. 26 12. 6³
13. to 16. The arrangement of numbers is as follows:
Example (13): $3 \times 7 = 21$; $3 + 5 + 21 = 29$; $6 + 5 = 11$;
 $6 + 11 + 7 = 24$; $3 + 6 + 7 + 21 = 37$
13. 6 14. 4 15. 32 16. 208
17. 18. Add 6 and 3 and double the number.
18. 66. Multiply the set of numbers in the outer square across the box, i.e., 11×12 and divide by 2.

19. X 20. L 21. L 22. R
23. F and I
24. (d) 25. (d) 26. (b) 27. (c)
28. (a)
29. K19. The gap in letters increases by 1, starting from Q, clockwise. Corresponding numbers on right and left interchange positions.
30. H8. One letter is dropped if we start from B clockwise and corresponding numbers of letters in alphabetical order interchange places. (right and left)
31. P. Add the corresponding numbers of P and J, i.e., 16 + 10 to get 26.
32. to 38. For finding out the right code letters, sort out common letters in words and match them with letters in code.
32. (a) 33. (c) 34. (f) 35. (f)
36. (b) 37. (d) 38. (e) 39. RETAIN
40. (b) 41. (a) 42. (c) 43. (c)
44. (a)
45. C. Both the gases exist in atmosphere.
46. A. Water contains hydrogen but nitrogen is a different item.
47. E. All hotels have kitchens but only some are clean.
48. B. All are different items.
49. F. Nests are in trees and eggs in nests.
50. D. Some boys go to college and some infants are boys.

TEST OF REASONING

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TEST OF REASONING-II

ODD-MAN

Find the odd-man out:

- | | |
|-------------------|---------------|
| 1. (a) knave | (b) king |
| (c) ace | (d) queen |
| (e) minister | |
| 2. (a) hawk | (b) parrot |
| (c) falcon | (d) eagle |
| (e) vulture | |
| 3. (a) artery | (b) ventricle |
| (c) pharynx | (d) aorta |
| (e) auricle | |
| 4. (a) bull | (b) cow |
| (c) tiger | (d) dog |
| (e) lion | |
| 5. (a) lemon | (b) orange |
| (c) citron | (d) lime |
| (e) banana | |
| 6. (a) Babylonia | (b) Egypt |
| (c) Mesopotamia | (d) Khajuraho |
| (e) Harappa | |
| 7. (a) Prem Chand | (b) Kalidas |
| (c) Shakespeare | (d) G.B. Shaw |
| (e) Marlowe | |
| 8. (a) manganese | (b) rubber |
| (c) salt | (d) gold |
| (e) stone | |

ANALOGIES

Words in questions given below have certain relationship. Your task is to tick mark the choice with a similar relationship.

- | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 9. gold : ornament | |
| (a) silver : metal | (b) clay : brick |
| (c) copper : brass | (d) dance : rhythm |
| 10. tense : present | |
| (a) cinema : screen | (b) copy : pen |
| (c) register : record | (d) meal : supper |
| 11. road : footpath | |
| (a) park : labyrinth | (b) sari : border |
| (c) shoe : lace | (d) market : shops |
| 12. music : sound | |
| (a) sea : waves | (b) crops : food |
| (c) painting : colours | (d) factory : production |
| 13. rest : exhaustion | |
| (a) sleep : dream | (b) water : drink |
| (c) country : government | |
| (d) food : hunger | |
| 14. temple : worship | |

(a) auditorium : entertainment

(b) school : student

(c) office : file

(d) art : painting

15. temperature : thermometer

(a) milk : lactometer

(b) language : alma mater (c) length : tape

(d) book : read

16. poverty : prosperity

(a) intelligence : stupidity (b) rain : flood

(c) train : cart (d) love : sorrow

What is common in the following? More than one choice may be correct but you have to tick-mark the most appropriate one.

17. Mars : Mercury : Venus.

(a) They have no corresponding lucky stone.

(b) They are evil planets.

(c) They have an opposite motion.

(d) They are the nearest planets to the earth.

18. Akbar : Gandhi : Ashok.

(a) They were great leaders.

(b) They respected all the religions.

(c) They believed in non-violence.

(d) They all originally belonged to Gujarat.

19. Mandarin : Sinhalese : Tamil.

(a) They are originally Indian languages.

(b) They have originated from Sanskrit.

(c) They are Asian Languages.

(d) They have the same type of grammar.

20. anger : love : sorrow.

(a) They are instincts.

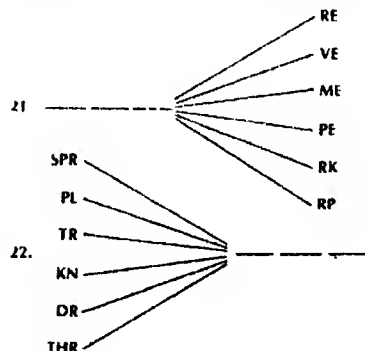
(b) They are feelings.

(c) They are emotions.

(d) They are sentiments.

LEXICAL-ITEMS

Find out the three-letter set that can be added before/after the following to form words.

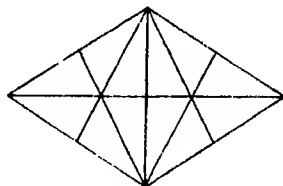


Find out the set of letters (number of letters depending upon number of blanks in the brackets) that, if added to letters on the left and letters on the right would form words:

23. CON (---) FEW
 24. CON (----) URE
 25. Which word can be used as prefix as well as suffix to all the following?
 ---LET ---LAY
 LET--- LAY---
 26. Form two words by using 1st, 3rd, 8th, 13th and 18th letters of the alphabets.

DEDUCTIONS

27. Count the number of triangles in the following figure and tick mark the right choice.



- (a) 32 (b) 36 (c) 38 (d) 40

Six boys, A, B, C, D, E and F are sitting in two rows of three each one behind the other. Study the following statements and answer the questions.

D is to the right of F and E is in front of D.
 B is in front of C.
 A is to the right of B.

28. Who is on the extreme left in the second row?
 (a) C (b) D (c) A (d) F
 29. A is on which side of E?
 (a) front (b) behind
 (c) left (d) right

Mr Prakash starts from point P and walks two kilometres towards north, then turns right and covers two more kms then he turns towards south, goes one km, turns right, walks for one more km and finally turns left, goes one km and reaches his destination D.

30. How far is P from D as the crow flies?

- (a) 3 kms (b) 1 km
 (c) $\sqrt{1^2 + 2^2}$ (d) $\sqrt{3^2 + 1^2}$

31. How many kilometres did Prakash walk?

- (a) 6 (b) 7 (c) 8 (d) 5

32. If Prakash walks at the speed of 7 km p.h. and he stopped at each turn for 2 minutes, how much time did he take in reaching D?

- (a) 1 hr 32 mts (b) 1 hr 34 mts
 (c) 1 hr 14 mts (d) 1 hr 20 mts

A colony has six houses in a row. Sheela and Anita are Malti's neighbours. Kamla's house is to the right of Bharti. Nirmala is not Kamla's neighbour. Anita is to the right of Nirmala.

33. Whose house is on the extreme left?

- (a) Anita (b) Kamla
 (c) Bharti (d) Nirmala

34. Who is on the right of Sheela?

- (a) Bharti (b) Anita (c) Nirmala (d) no one

In a hundred metre race, Babloo is ahead of Montu and Sonu, Pinky is ahead of Babloo, Chintu is behind Montu and Sonu is ahead of Montu.

35. Which child is the last?

- (a) Montu (b) Pinky (c) Sonu
 (d) Chintu (e) Babloo

36. Who has the third place?

- (a) Sonu (b) Chintu (c) Babloo
 (d) Montu (e) Pinky

Four young men Rakesh, Sunder, Tarun and Upendra are married to Rekha, Sunita, Tara and Uma and the couples live in Rampur, Sanchi, Tirupati and Udhampur. Your task is to match the right couple and the place where they live. The first letter of a man, his wife and the city in which they live is not common.

Sunita is not Rakesh's wife.

Sunder does not live in Rampur or Udhampur and is not Rekha's husband.

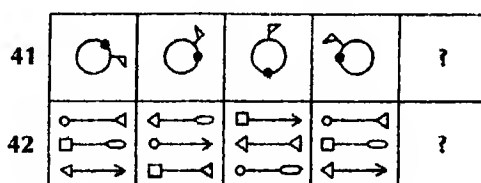
Upendra and Tara do not live in Sanchi.

37. Rakesh (A) Rekha (a) Rampur
 38. Sunder (B) Sunita (b) Sanchi
 39. Tarun (C) Tara (c) Tirupati
 40. Upendra (D) Uma (d) Udhampur

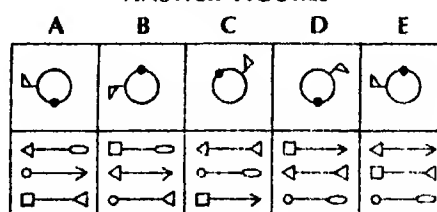
NON-VERBAL SERIES

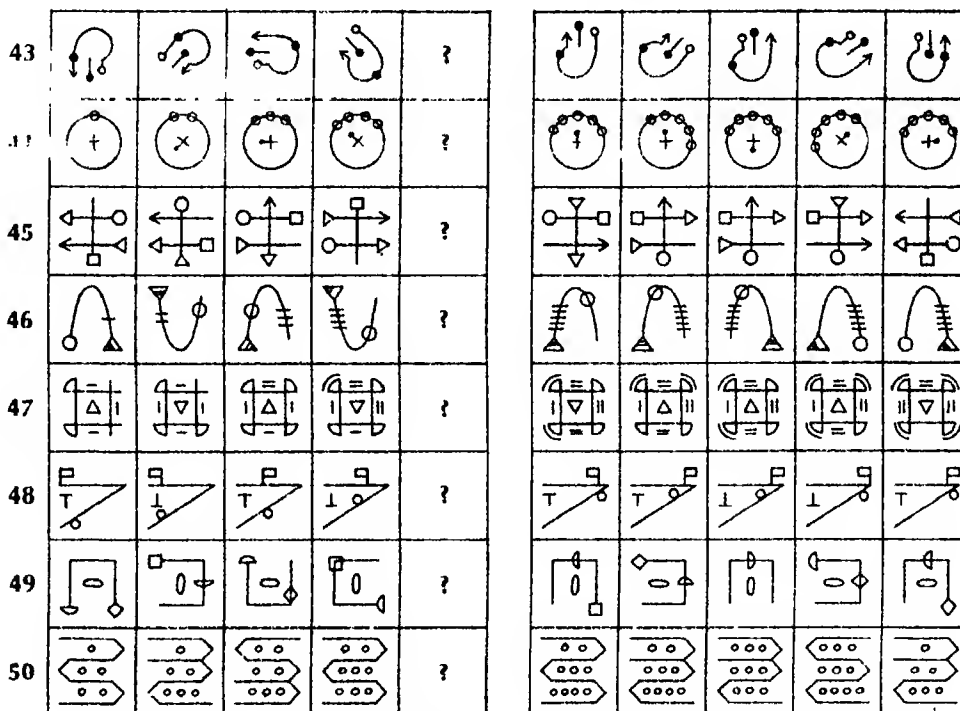
Given below are two sets of figures, the Problem Figures and the Answer Figures marked A, B, C, D and E. Your task is to find out which of the Answer Figures would fit in place of the question-mark in the Problem Figure.

PROBLEM FIGURES



ANSWER FIGURES





ANSWERS AND EXPLANATIONS

1. (e) All the others are related to playing cards.
2. (b) All the others are birds of prey.
3. (c) It is the only term that is not related to heart.
4. (b) It is the only female among male animals.
5. (e) All the others are citrus fruits.
6. (d) All the other places saw the dawn of early civilization.
7. (a) Prem Chand is basically a novelist and story-writer while others are basically dramatists.
8. (b) It is the only item that is derived from trees.
9. (b) The relationship is that of the raw material and its finished product.
10. (d) The relationship is that of head and one of its items.
11. (b) The second item runs along the edges of the first.
12. (c) The first is the organised form of the second.
13. (d) First is necessary if one is suffering from the other.
14. (a) The relationship is that of the place and its object.
15. (c) The second one is used for measuring the first.
16. (a) The words are opposites.
17. (d) 18. (b) 19. (c) 20. (c)
21. SHA 22. EAD 23. CUR 24. VENT
25. OUT 26. MARCH : CHARM
27. (d) 28. (a) 29. (c) 30. (b)
31. (d) 32. (a) 33. (b) 34. (a)
35. (d) 36. (a) 37. Cd 38. Dc
39. Ab 40. Ba
41. E. The dot has a clockwise motion, the flag a regular anti-clockwise movement turning direction.
42. A. The figure at the bottom on the right goes up and the one on the left comes down and others shift up and down accordingly.
43. C. The whole figure rotates clockwise, figures at the edges interchange places, the dot shifts towards the other end and the figure at the opening changes direction.
44. D. One small circle is added right and left by turns. The figure inside has a clockwise movement.
45. D. The arrow-head and the triangle at its tail have a clockwise movement, the remaining figures go round anti-clockwise.
46. B. The figure tilts up and down, the set of lines with one added moves to the other side, so does the triangle with design in corner sliding along three corners.
47. C. The triangle-like shape at the corner is formed anti-clockwise, a small line is added clockwise and the triangle tilts upside down alternately.
48. E. The flag slides towards right changing direction, the ball advances towards corner changing sides and T turns upside down.
49. E. The whole figure rotates clockwise, the 'D' moves along three points turning direction and the square moves towards the other end.
50. B. The lowest edge > goes to the top and the others slide down. The number of dots increases by turns.

TEST OF REASONING-III

SYLLOGISM

TYPE I

In the following statements, a situation has been explained in a few sentences followed by a conclusion. You have to say whether the conclusion:

- (a) necessarily follows from the statements
- (b) is only a long drawn one.
- (c) definitely does not follow from the statements.
- (d) is doubtful as the data provided is inadequate.

Note: Your answers should only be in the light of the statements given.

Statements:

- (1) 1. Cheap machines often lack dependability.
- 2. Mr X has bought an expensive machine.

Conclusion: It is totally dependable.

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐

Statements:

- (2) 1. If there is a calamity, leaders go around the affected area.
- 2. They meet the victims and promise to help them.

Conclusion: Such sympathetic visits give the victims assurance.

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐

Statements:

- (3) 1. Journalists often publish untold stories about public figures.
- 2. These public figures have a hostile attitude towards newsmen.

Conclusion: They never wanted their private affairs to become public.

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐

Statements:

- (4) 1. In India, the youngsters touch the feet of their elders.
- 2. A beggar was seen touching a rich man's feet.

Conclusion: The rich man was his elder.

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐

Statements:

- (5) 1. Lord Indra was always afraid if he saw someone performing a severe 'tapasya'.
- 2. He tried to disturb the performer.
- 3. He sent his 'apsaras' to use their charm on the 'tapasvi'.

Conclusion: Woman is the greatest weakness of every man.

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐

Statements:

- (6) 1. 'Dharnas' have become a very common affair for getting what one wants.
- 2. 'Dharnas' are usually followed by street agitations.

Conclusion: The Government crushes these 'dharnas' by using violent force.

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐

Statements:

- (7) 1. Most of the rural stories are woven around the cruel rich landlords and the exploited villagers.
- 2. These landlords try to silence the voices raised against their injustice.

Conclusion: Such rebels are cruelly killed to teach their supporters a lesson.

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐

Statements:

- (8) 1. The Indian students who go abroad do marvellously well.
- 2. They are offered a job there as well.

Conclusion: Those countries want to retain such master minds, so do not let them return.

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐

Statements:

- (9) 1. Those who serve in public sectors or in govt. departments, have to retire at a certain age.
- 2. Ministers have no such age bar.

Conclusion: Age has no effect on ministers.

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐

Statements:

- (10) 1. Private sectors offer incentives to young salesmen for achieving targets set for them.
- 2. Mr X, a salesman, has recently received Rs 20000 extra from his company.

Conclusion: He was able to achieve his target.

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐

TYPE II

In making decisions about important questions, it is desirable to be able to distinguish between 'strong' arguments and 'weak' arguments so far as they are concerned with the question. 'Weak' arguments may not be directly related to the question, may be of minor importance or may be related to some trivial aspect of the question. Each question given below is followed by two arguments numbered I and II. You have to decide which of the arguments is 'strong' and which is 'weak'. Then decide which of the answers given below and numbered (a), (b), (c), (d) and (e) is the correct answer.

- (a) Only I is strong.
 (b) Only II is strong.
 (c) Both I and II are strong.
 (d) Either I or II is strong.
 (e) Neither I nor II is strong.
11. Can a speaker be the quiet type?
 I. Yes, being quiet is a temperamental quality and does not affect the art of oratory.
 II. No, a quiet person can never be a good speaker.
 (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐
12. Does popularity of romantic movies mean that the audience is fed up with violent movies?
 I. Yes, there is no romance in movies based on violence.
 II. No, the romantic movies have new stars and the audience just go to see how they look.
 (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐
13. Has medical science really lengthened the span of life?
 I. Yes, the new drugs and vaccines have been able to combat the diseases and increase the span of life.
 II. No, the eternal truth that every person's days are numbered cannot be denied.
 (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐
14. Is the brain-drain of highly qualified scientists to the West, a great loss to India?
 I. Yes, had they remained here, they would have performed wonders for India.
 II. No, our laboratories lack the quality and facilities they need.
 (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐
15. Are actresses with exceptional beauty more successful than those who can act?
 I. Yes, most of the film goers are enchanted by a pretty face.
 II. No, acting touches the heart of the spectator while mere beauty can't.
 (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐
16. Will agitation by students make the government change its reservation policy?
 I. Yes, the demands of the students are genuine.
 II. No, those who are benefitted by the policy will not let the govt make any changes.
 (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐
17. Will the petrol crisis be over soon?
 I. Yes, life and trade in the Middle East countries will soon return to normalcy.
 II. No, there are no chances of their coming to some mutual understanding in the near future.
 (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐
18. Are religious leaders responsible for communal differences?
 I. Yes, they have no respect and tolerance for other religions.
 II. No, people have no faith in them.
 (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐
19. Should women learn martial arts like judo and karate?
 I. Yes, self-defence has become a must for women

these days.

- II. No, it is very unfeminine to give-up the natural delicacy and learn arts that are meant for hard men.
 (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐
20. Is the youngest child happy when a 'new babe' arrives in the family?
 I. Yes, it is exciting to have a new member in the family.
 II. No, the child feels that his rival is sharing all the love and attention of parents that were solely his or her.
 (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

TYPE III

In questions given below, statements 1 and 2 are followed by conclusions I and II. Taking the statements to be right although they may seem at variance with commonly accepted facts, mark your answers as under:

- (a) Only I is strong.
 (b) Only II is strong.
 (c) Both I and II are strong.
 (d) Either I or II is strong.
 (e) Neither I nor II is strong.

Statements:

21. 1. All hands are machines.
 2. All machines are wheels.

Conclusions:

- I. All wheels are hands.
 II. All hands are wheels.
 (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

Statements:

22. 1. All nurses are compounders.
 2. Some compounders are doctors.

Conclusions:

- I. Some nurses are doctors.
 II. None of the nurses is a doctor.
 (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

Statements:

23. 1. Some buds are leaves.
 2. Some leaves are red.

Conclusions:

- I. Some buds are red.
 II. Some leaves are not buds.
 (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

Statements:

24. 1. Some stones are shells.
 2. All shells are pearls

Conclusions:

- I. Some stones are pearls.
 II. All pearls are shells.
 (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

Statements:

25. 1. Busy roads are not black.
 2. Road number 5 is black.

Conclusions:

- I. Road No. 5 is not a busy road.
 II. Road No. 5 is a busy road.

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

Statements:

26. 1. Brown is red and blue is green.
2. Green is pink and yellow is red.

Conclusions:

- I. Yellow is brown.
II. Pink is blue.

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

Statements:

27. 1. All basketball players are tall and all tall players wear caps.
2. All the players who wear caps do not put on shoes.

Conclusions:

- I. All basketball players put on shoes.
II. Some players wear shoes as well as caps.

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

Statements:

28. 1. Merchants who do not own cars do not have bicycles either.
2. Those who do not have bicycles have tricycles.

Conclusions:

- I. Some merchants have only tricycles.
II. No one has both, the car and the tricycle.

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

TYPE IV

In the following questions, assertion 'A' is followed by reasons RI and RII. Apply the reasons to assertion and mark your answers as under:

- (a) Only RI is strong.
(b) Only RII is strong.
(c) Both RI and RII are strong.
(d) Either RI or RII is strong.
(e) Neither RI nor RII is strong.

29. A. Interior decorators are very much in demand by the owners of hotels.

RI. The owners lack aesthetic sense and have no ideas how to decorate their hotels.

RII. They want their hotels to have a touch of professional perfection.

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

30. A. During a conference of heads of States in South East Asian countries, our Prime Minister was considered to be the best dressed person.

RI. He put on very expensive clothes.

RII. He is an extremely handsome man.

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

31. A. Handicrafts is a compulsory subject for children.

RI. Constructing things with hands develops one's aesthetic sense and capability.

RII. Children learn to concentrate over creative arts.

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

32. A. Underground parking complexes have been planned for metropolitans in busy areas.

RI. The parked vehicles along roadside leave very

little space.

RII. Underground activities could be easily carried out in such areas of parking.

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

33. A. Very high heels do more harm than good to the feet.

RI. The whole weight of body falls on toes.

RII. They are very expensive.

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

34. A. Members of the bridegroom's party (the *baratis*) expect to be treated as VIPs by the bride's family.

RI. They all belong to very respectable families.

RII. The arrangement of treating the *baratis* as VIPs is rather traditional.

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

TYPE V

In questions given below, a statement is followed by implications I and II. Your task is to imply I and II to the statement and mark your answers as under:

- (a) Only I is implicit.
(b) Only II is implicit.
(c) Both I and II are implicit.
(d) Either I or II is implicit.
(e) Neither I nor II is implicit.

Statement:

35. Would be mothers often seek help of ultrasonology to confirm the sex of the unborn babe.

Implications:

- I. They are too excited to wait long enough.
II. If they want a son and the babe is a girl, they do not want to have it.

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

Statement:

36. Platform schools have been opened for wandering and neglected street children.

Implications:

I. Their poor parents are too busy to bother about them.

II. Social workers, who manage these schools, dream of a bright future for these kids.

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

Statement:

37. Some people just don't want a telephone in their house.

Implications:

I. Telephone is an expensive affair.

II. Whenever you hear the telephone ring at odd hours and pick it up, it's a wrong number.

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

Statement:

38. Some businessmen are supposed to have a Midas Touch.

Implications:

I. Every business, they put their hand into, gives excellent return.

II. Midas was a businessman.

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

Statement:

39. The beaches of Goa are a great attraction to tourists.

Implications:

- I. They are very beautiful.
II. They are absolutely safe.

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

Statement:

40. Ramu, a college student, gets scholarship regularly.

Implications:

- I. He belongs to a certain class who are given such facility by the govt.
II. He has been a topper and earned the merit scholarship.

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

TYPE VI

At the end of the passage given below, some conclusions have been drawn. On the basis of the study of the paragraph, mark your answers as under:

- A. Definitely true.
B. Probably true.
C. Can't say as the data provided is inadequate.
D. Probably wrong.
E. Definitely wrong.

There is a great enthusiasm towards study when we go abroad because the emphasis is not just on one final examination that would determine the outcome of the whole course, but on how one performs throughout the course. One may be bright and intelligent but a poor exam taker, or one could have a bad day on the day of the examination; going by that, one score is monstrously unfair, and this is the great drawback in the Indian system. By giving regular assignments with weightage in the final grades at the end of the term, the American system ensures consistent performance and genuine involvement. Often the best examination takers are not the best research workers.

41. All bright and intelligent students do extremely well during exams.

- A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐

42. In India, the only evaluation is through the final exams.

- A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐

43. If a student has had a bad day, he certainly spoils his paper.

- A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐

44. India is going to adopt the system of regular assignments throughout the session.

- A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐

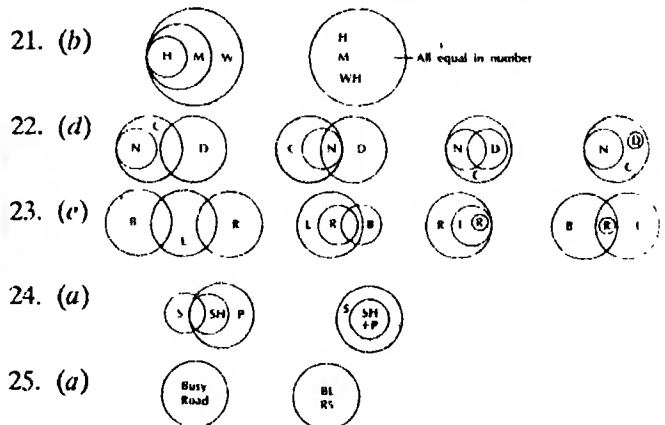
45. Most of the best research workers are the best exam takers as well.

- A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐

ANSWERS AND EXPLANATIONS

1. (d) Nothing has been stated about expensive machines.

2. (a) Promises always give assurance hence 'a'.
3. (a) The conclusion is in confirmation with their attitude.
4. (c) There is no elder or younger relation between the richman and the beggar.
5. (b) The *apsaras* were not always successful, hence a long drawn conclusion.
6. (c) Street agitations start when the peaceful '*dhamas*' are a failure and go unattended.
7. (b) 'killed' is rather a long drawn conclusion. The story may have another happy ending.
8. (b) Perhaps they don't want to come themselves. The conclusion is based on the word 'offered' hence long drawn.
9. (c) The conclusion is a wrong one.
10. (a) The additional income confirms it.
11. (a) The second argument is weak.
12. (e) First one is wrong and the second related to a trivial aspect.
13. (c) Both the arguments are strong in their own way.
14. (a) The second argument is slightly off the track.
15. (b) Second is stronger than the first.
16. (c) Both the arguments are equally strong.
17. (d) Either could happen.
18. (e) Both the arguments lack force and strength.
19. (a) The second one is related to a trivial aspect.
20. (b) The second one is more appealing.
21. to 25. The best way to solve these questions is by drawing all the probable diagrams and then tick mark the answer after an absolute surety.



26. (b) 27. (e) 28. (c) 29. (b)
30. (e) 31. (c) 32. (a) 33. (a)
34. (b) 35. (b) 36. (c) 37. (e)
38. (a) 39. (c) 40. (d)

41. E. The passage says they are often poor exam takers.
42. A. The passage criticizes the Indian system for that reason.
43. B. The word certainly imparts the conclusion a probability. Even after a bad day, the student can do fairly well.
44. C. Nothing has been stated about such policy.
45. D. The passage uses the word 'often' and the conclusion 'most of the' hence probably wrong.

Quantitative Aptitude

The questions given below were set in B.S.R.B. (Delhi) Probationary Officers' Examination held on the 12th August, 1990.

We are grateful to Mr Vinay Kumar Sinha of Patna for sending these questions to us.

Q. 1 to 15. What should come in place of the question mark (?) in the following questions?

1. $3024 + 336 \div 28 = ?$
(a) 3012 (b) 120 (c) 3036 (d) 3126
2. $6.12 \times 0.5 + 0.005 = ?$
(a) 3.065 (b) 3.0906 (c) 3.056 (d) 3.65
3. $\sqrt{\frac{?}{169}} = \frac{54}{39}$
(a) 108 (b) 324 (c) 2916 (d) 4800
4. $4\frac{3}{5} + 10\frac{2}{5} + 2\frac{3}{5} = ?$
(a) $5\frac{10}{13}$ (b) $8\frac{2}{5}$ (c) $7\frac{3}{5}$ (d) $8\frac{3}{5}$
5. $687.832 + 35.5 + 2.62 = ?$
(a) 1304.832 (b) 725.457 (c) 725.394
(d) 725.952 (e) None of these
6. $5789 + 934 + 85 = ?$
(a) 15214 (b) 6808 (c) 7573 (d) 6898
7. $\frac{12 \times 8 + 4}{24 + 36 \div 6} = ?$
(a) $4\frac{12}{15}$ (b) $3\frac{1}{2}$ (c) 10 (d) $\frac{3}{10}$
(e) None of these
8. $9741 - 4576 + 382 = ?$
(a) 5547 (b) 4783 (c) 13935 (d) 5165
9. $6\frac{1}{2} + 3\frac{1}{4} - 2\frac{3}{4} = ?$
(a) $7\frac{1}{4}$ (b) 8 (c) $12\frac{1}{2}$ (d) 7
10. $14.397 + 27.245 - 35.125 = ?$
(a) 6.517 (b) 6.417 (c) 6.527 (d) 5.517
11. $7.1 + 0.071 = ?$
(a) 0.01 (b) 0.1 (c) 10 (d) 100
12. $\sqrt{(16)^2} = ?$
(a) 8 (b) 16 (c) 64 (d) 196
13. $\frac{8}{9} = \frac{72}{?}$
(a) 73 (b) 72 (c) 81 (d) 90
14. $200 = ?\% \text{ of } 300$
(a) $33\frac{1}{3}$ (b) 85 (c) $66\frac{2}{3}$ (d) 150

15. $888 \times 25 = ?$

- (a) 22200 (b) 222000 (c) 20220
(d) 20200 (e) None of these

Q. 16 to 20. In each question below which approximate value should replace the question mark? (You are not expected to find out the exact value)

16. $3\frac{1}{2} + 5\frac{1}{5} + 6\frac{1}{4} = ?$
(a) 12 (b) 10 (c) 18 (d) 15
(e) 19
17. $48246 + 13 = ?$
(a) 3600 (b) 3700 (c) 3500 (d) 370
(e) 3800
18. $9\sqrt{3} + 25 \div 5 = ?$
(a) 8 (b) 15 (c) 20 (d) 25
(e) 7
19. $29.6854 - 23.4915 = ?$
(a) 13.0 (b) 6.0 (c) 6.6 (d) 7.2
(e) 10.2
20. $112 \times 4 + ? = 500$
(a) 52 (b) 20 (c) 60 (d) 70
(e) 40

Q. 21 to 25. In each of the following number series, a wrong number is given. Find out that number.

21. 2, 5, 11, 27, 58, 121, 248
(a) 5 (b) 11 (c) 27 (d) 58 (e) 121
22. 895, 870, 821, 740, 619, 445, 225
(a) 870 (b) 821 (c) 740 (d) 619 (e) 445
23. 1, 2, 6, 21, 86, 445, 2676
(a) 2 (b) 6 (c) 21 (d) 86 (e) 445
24. 644, 328, 164, 84, 44, 24, 14
(a) 328 (b) 164 (c) 84 (d) 44 (e) 24
25. 3, 10, 19, 30, 43, 60, 75
(a) 10 (b) 19 (c) 30 (d) 43 (e) 60
26. Which is the biggest of the following fractions?
(a) $\frac{2}{3}$ (b) $\frac{3}{4}$ (c) $\frac{4}{5}$ (d) $\frac{5}{6}$ (e) $\frac{6}{7}$
27. If $(9 * 67 - 73) \div 7 = 1342$, which of the following should be in place of the asterisk (*)?
(a) 0 (b) 1 (c) 2 (d) 4
28. What should be added to 32572 to make it exactly divisible by 7?
(a) 1 (b) 2 (c) 3 (d) 4
(e) None of these
29. The ratio of Vimal's age to Aruna's age is 3 : 5 and the sum of their ages is 80 years. What will be the ratio of their ages after 10 years?
(a) 3 : 2 (b) 3 : 5 (c) 2 : 3 (d) 1 : 2

OBJECTIVE-TYPE QUESTIONS

30. How many days will 12 men take to complete a job which 18 men take 36 days to finish?

- (a) 72 (b) 54 (c) 24 (d) 18

31. If a sum doubles itself in twenty years at simple interest, what must be the p.c.p.a. rate of interest.

- (a) 5 (b) 10 (c) 20 (d) Data inadequate

32. The profit made on selling an article for Rs 425 is as much as the loss incurred when it is sold for Rs 355. What is the cost price of the article?

- (a) Rs 385 (b) Rs 390 (c) Rs 395
(d) Rs 400 (e) None of these

33. The prices of a T.V. set and a radio are in the ratio 7 : 2. If a T.V. set costs Rs 3500 more than a radio, what is the price of a radio?

- (a) Rs 1400 (b) Rs 1000 (c) Rs 700
(d) Rs 500 (e) None of these

34. An increase of Rs 60 in the monthly salary of Madan made it 50% of the monthly salary of Kamal. What is Madan's present monthly salary?

- (a) Rs 180 (b) Rs 240 (c) Rs 300
(d) Data inadequate (e) None of these

35. How many pieces each of 3.5 metres length can be cut out of a length of 525 metres of cloth?

- (a) 175 (b) 150 (c) 75 (d) 15

36. The average age of the 30 students in a class is 12 years. The average age of a group of 5 of the students is 10 years and that of another group of 5 of them is 14 years. What is the average age of the remaining students?

- (a) 8 years (b) 10 years (c) 12 years
(d) 14 years (e) None of these

37. One third of the boys and one half of the girls of a college participate in its social work project. If the number of participating students is 300, out of which 100 are boys, what is the total number of students in the college?

- (a) 500 (b) 600 (c) 700 (d) 800

38. The length of a plot of land is four times its breadth. A playground measuring 1200 square metres occupies a third of the total area of the plot. What is the length of the plot, in metres?

- (a) 20 (b) 30 (c) 60 (d) 90
(e) None of these

39. A third of Vinod's marks in Mathematics exceeds a half of his marks in Social Studies by 30. If he got 240 marks in the two subjects together, how many marks did he get in Social Studies?

- (a) 40 (b) 60 (c) 80 (d) 90

40. If a quarter kilogram costs 60 paise, how many paise will 200 grammes cost?

- (a) 12 (b) 24 (c) 36 (d) 48

Q. 41 to 45. Study the following table and answer the questions given below it:

Annual Sales achieved by Five Companies
(Rupees in lakhs)

Year Company	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989
A	864	900	875	1000	975	970
B	785	1040	980	1060	980	1200
C	620	780	820	910	940	1000
D	685	790	740	800	850	900
E	735	850	520	980	460	700

41. In which of the following years was the difference between the highest and the lowest sales maximum?

- (a) 1984 (b) 1986 (c) 1987 (d) 1988
(e) 1989

42. In the year 1988 the sales of Company 'B' were approximately what per cent of the sales of Company 'E'?

- (a) 171 (b) 213 (c) 47 (d) 115 (e) 155

43. In which of the following years the sales of Company 'C' show the highest increase over that in the preceding year?

- (a) 1985 (b) 1986 (c) 1987 (d) 1988 (e) 1989

44. The sales of which Company in 1987 show the highest increase over that in 1984?

- (a) A (b) B (c) C (d) D (e) E

45. In the year 1986 the sales of 'D' were approximately what per cent of the average sales of the five companies in that year?

- (a) 66 (b) 94 (c) 101 (d) 104 (e) 106

ANSWERS & EXPLANATIONS

- (c)
- (a)
- (b)
- (d)
- (d)
- (b)
- (e) Ans. $\frac{10}{3}$
- (b)
- (d)
- (a)
- (d)
- (b)
- (c)
- (c)
- (a)
- (b)
- (c)
- (b)
- (b)
- (b) $2 \times 2 + 1 = 5; 5 \times 2 + 2 = 12;$
 $12 \times 2 + 3 = 27; 27 \times 2 + 4 = 58$ and so on.
- (e) The series is $895 - (5 \times 5) = 870;$
 $870 - (7 \times 7) = 821; 821 - (9 \times 9) = 740;$ and so on.
- (d) The series is: $1 \times 1 + 1 = 2; 2 \times 2 + 2 = 6;$ and so on.
- (a) $14 + 10 = 24; 24 + 20 = 44;$ and so on
- (e) $3 + 7 = 10; 10 + 9 = 19; 19 + 11 = 30;$ and so on
- (e)
- (d)
- (e) Ans. 6
- (c)
- (b)
- (a)
- (d)
- (b)
- (c)
- (c)
- (e) Ans. 120
- (b)
- (b)
- (a)
- (c)
- (b)

ENGLISH LANGUAGE

In the following sentences (1 to 8) there is an error in one part of each sentence. Find out the error. In case you don't find any error, the answer is 5.

1. Two recent incidents (1) amply illustrate about (2) the present state of Indian polity (3) in a most telling manner (4). No error (5).

2. As the second week (1) of the finals grew to a close (2), World Cup star-gazers were still wondering (3) who would emerge as the player of the tournament (4). No error (5).

3. There is today (1) wide ignorance of the epics (2) and other aspects of our much-vaunted (3) heritage among the educated and the unlettered (4). No error (5).

4. Even when (1) we were under foreign rule (2) our leaders—both political and intellectual (3)—tried to keep abreast off (4) world trends. No error (5).

5. Only little (1) self-discipline is needed (2) to make our daily trials (3) with fellowmen wholly immaterial for our (4) peace of mind. No error (5).

6. The ideology of our national (1) movement was not just (2) harking back to the golden past (3) but to get attuned with (4) the contemporary times. No error (5).

7. I must say that (1) to try to exploit (2) friendship for advancing everybody's (3) interest is the worst feature (4) of social life among us. No error (5).

8. Perhaps we must (1) wait for quieter times (2) before the claims of civilization (3) can again override over the claims (4) of party spirit. No error (5).

Find out the most suitable meaning of the following idioms from the four alternatives given below each idiom.

9. *to eat one's heart out:*

- (a) feel disheartened
- (b) complain against somebody
- (c) endure frustration

(d) cry in pain

10. *hush money:*

- (a) dowry
- (b) bribe
- (c) stolen money
- (d) wages

11. *to rest on one's laurels*

- (a) feel satisfied with past honours
- (b) boast for nothing
- (c) feel proud of one's possessions
- (d) become complacent

12. *to rule the roast or roost:*

- (a) to domineer
- (b) to surrender
- (c) to run away
- (d) to fight for one's rights

13. *to split hairs:*

- (a) to be careful
- (b) to become indifferent
- (c) to become aggressive
- (d) to make useless distinctions

14. *to steal a march:*

- (a) to prosper
- (b) to win honour
- (c) to gain popularity
- (d) to gain advantage stealthily

15. *to beard a man:*

- (a) to kill
- (b) to oppose
- (c) to harm
- (d) to insult

In the following questions (16 and 17) the first and the last part of the passages are numbered 1 and 6. The rest of the passage is split into four parts and named A, B, C and D. These four parts are not given in their proper order. Read the sentences and find out which of the four combinations is correct:

16. 1. Crafty men condemn studies

- A. but that is a wisdom without them
 - B. simple men admire them
 - C. for they teach not their own use
 - D. and wise men use them
6. and above them, won by

observation.

- (a) CBAD
- (b) BCAD
- (c) BDCA
- (d) BADC

17. 1. Many people decry happiness as an end

- A. but it is quite another to treat the general happiness as a thing of no account.
- B. but one may suspect them of sour grapes
- C. it is one thing to forgo personal happiness for a public end.
- D. both for themselves and for others

6. yet this is often done in the name of some supposed heroism.

- (a) DBCA
- (b) DABC
- (c) DCBA
- (d) CBAD

Out of the four alternatives given below each word, choose the one that best expresses the meaning of the given word:

18. *noblesse*

- (a) virtue
- (b) high rank
- (c) goodness
- (d) charity

19. *innuendo:*

- (a) abuse
- (b) invective
- (c) indirect reference
- (d) criticism

20. *dossier*

- (a) information
- (b) file
- (c) remark
- (d) argument

21. *impasse*

- (a) war-like
- (b) darkness
- (c) discussion
- (d) difficult situation

22. *cavalier*

- (a) discourteous
- (b) similar
- (c) identical

OBJECTIVE-TYPE QUESTIONS

- (d) same
23. *heyday*:
(a) victory
(b) reception
(c) great time
(d) holiday

Choose the word opposite in meaning to the given words:

24. *populist*:
(a) restrictive
(b) elitist
(c) reserve
(d) selective
25. *jubilant*
(a) despondent
(b) respondent
(c) quiet
(d) indifferent

26. *sceptic*
(a) follower
(b) bigot
(c) fanatic
(d) believer

27. *thrifty*
(a) wreckless
(b) prodigal
(c) ruthless
(d) charitable

28. *predecessor*
(a) successor
(b) heir
(c) claimant
(d) follower

29. *consolidate*
(a) dissipate
(b) wither
(c) decay
(d) decline

Complete the following sentences of a passage by putting the most appropriate word in the blanks.

30. Few people get what they _____ themselves most to desire
(a) believe
(b) think
(c) consider
(d) deserve

31. but that is because they make one great mistake in _____.
(a) youth
(b) early
(c) life
(d) old age

32. They want to be _____, instead of to do something.
(a) everything
(b) great

- (c) something
(d) humble
33. And their _____ lead them one way
(a) ambitions
(b) desires
(c) instincts
(d) wishes
34. while their _____ leads them another.
(a) brain
(b) judgement
(c) intellect
(d) heart
35. In such _____ instincts often win, more often than not.
(a) situation
(b) circumstances
(c) milieu
(d) cases

Read the following passage carefully and choose the best answer from the four alternatives given below each question:

What India needs is not economic and political reform as such. It requires an intellectual revolution which can help re-evaluate democratic precepts and practices. The state with all its multifarious failures elicits obeisance today perhaps because under the present political institutions all power is concentrated at the narrowly-based centre. There are no rival intellectual centres independent of state patronage where the issues of public policy can be debated dispassionately. This together with the fact that the intelligentsia are themselves a part of the ruling classes, perhaps by proxy, makes an intellectual revolution all the more difficult. If the locus of power is split to diffuse it among multiple centres, there might be a greater pluralism in economic policy-making. Until then the present 'Left-Right' march of Indian economic policy will continue without any watershed reform.

36. What does India need?
(a) economic and political reform
(b) intellectual revolution
(c) re-evaluation of democratic precepts and practices
(d) intellectual centres independent of state patronage

37. What does the Indian state elicit?

- (a) submission
(b) concentration of power
(c) denial of its failures
(d) none of the above
38. "rule by proxy" means:
(a) representative government
(b) government by intellectuals
(c) rule of law and equality
(d) indirect exercise of power
39. "locus of power" refers to:
(a) division of power
(b) concentration of power
(c) different constituents of power
(d) exact place of power

40. the nearest word in meaning of 'watershed' is:

- (a) turning point
(b) beginning
(c) ultimate
(d) immediate

ANSWERS

1. (2) 'about' is redundant and therefore not required. Similarly the use of 'about' after the verbs 'describe/discuss' is wrong.
 2. (5) No error
 3. (4) 'and among the unlettered' because ignorance is a common trait between the two.
 4. (4) preposition 'of' instead of 'off' with 'abreast' is needed.
 5. (1) 'only a little' is grammatically correct.
 6. (4) the verb attuned is followed by the preposition 'to' — therefore the correct usage is 'attuned to'.
 7. (3) the use of 'for advancing one's' is in keeping with the spirit of the sentence.
 8. (4) 'over' after the verb 'override' is redundant and does not serve any purpose. Therefore it should be deleted.
- | | | | |
|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| 9. (c) | 10. (b) | 11. (a) | 12. (a) |
| 13. (d) | 14. (d) | 15. (b) | 16. (c) |
| 17. (a) | 18. (b) | 19. (c) | 20. (b) |
| 21. (d) | 22. (a) | 23. (c) | 24. (b) |
| 25. (a) | 26. (d) | 27. (b) | 28. (a) |
| 29. (a) | 30. (a) | 31. (a) | 32. (c) |
| 33. (c) | 34. (b) | 35. (d) | 36. (b) |
| 37. (a) | 38. (d) | 39. (d) | 40. (a) |

GENERAL AWARENESS

The questions given below were set in B.S.R.B. (Delhi) Probationary Officers' examination held on the 12th August, 1990.

We are grateful to Mr Vinay Kumar Sinha of Patna for sending these questions to us.

*Tick-mark the correct answer out of the choices given.

1. Hong Kong, presently a British Colony, will become part of which country in 1997?

- (a) China (b) Japan
- (c) South Korea
- (d) Thailand

2. Which of the following is now a punishable offence by a Bank Account holder?

- (a) issuing a cheque without signature
- (b) if a cheque drawn by him is dishonoured for insufficiency of funds in his account
- (c) if a cheque is not crossed
- (d) if a post-dated cheque is issued

3. Which of the following is NOT a party to the sharing of the Cauvery water?

- (a) Tamil Nadu
- (b) Karnataka
- (c) Kerala (d) Pondicherry

4. Why was Mr K.L. Chisi in the news recently?

- (a) He has been inducted in the Central Cabinet as a minister of State
- (b) He has taken over as the Governor of Nagaland
- (c) He has taken over as the new Chief Minister of Nagaland after the resignation of Shri S.C. Jamir
- (d) He has been inducted in the Central Cabinet as a minister for J & K affairs

5. Which of the following best defines what C-Dot is?

- (a) It is the name of the submarine India is planning to purchase from a French

firm

(b) It is the abbreviated name of the Centre for the Development of Tele-matics.

(c) It is the name of fighter planes India has purchased from U.S.S.R.

(d) It is the name of the Swedish firm engaged in the production of Bofors guns

6. Who has been elected as the President of Namibia after her freedom from South Africa recently?

- (a) F.W. de Klerk
- (b) Botha
- (c) Walter Sisulu
- (d) Sam Njoma

7. Who among the following has been honoured as the "Journalist of the Year" recently?

- (a) Nikhil Chakravarty
- (b) Pritish Nandi
- (c) Arun Shourie
- (d) Kuldeep Nayar

8. Which of the following best defines the Super-301?

- (a) These are new aircrafts which will replace air buses A-320
- (b) This was the code name of operation conducted recently to sweep out naxalites from Kanha National Park
- (c) This is the nuclear submarine recently inducted in the Indian Navy
- (d) This is the name of the Unfair Trade Practices Act of 1988 of the U.S.A.

9. Dulhasti Hydro Electric Power Project is in which of the following States?

- (a) Jammu & Kashmir
- (b) Punjab
- (c) Haryana (d) West Bengal

10. The Presidential Election was held in which of the following Central American countries in February '90?

- (a) Costa Rica
- (b) Guatemala
- (c) Nicaragua

(d) El Salvador

11. A civil war for last 30 years is going on in which of the following African countries?

- (a) Sudan (b) Uganda
- (c) Kenya (d) Ethiopia

12. Why was K.P. Bhattarai in the news recently?

- (a) He is the newly elected President of Nepal
- (b) He is the newly elected Prime Minister of Nepal
- (c) He is the Chairman of Indo-Nepal Trade Commission
- (d) He is the king's nominee in the Rashtriya Panchayat of Nepal

13. Why was Lata Mangeshkar in the news recently?

- (a) She got the Dada Saheb Phalke Award for 1989
- (b) The Kalidas Samman was conferred upon her recently
- (c) The President has nominated her as the member of the Rajya Sabha
- (d) She has recently completed 60th year of her contribution to the film industry

14. Satish Gujral is a name associated with which of the following fields?

- (a) Music
- (b) Motion picture
- (c) Stage Acting
- (d) Art & Painting

15. Which of the following films has won the latest 'Oscar Award' for the best film?

- (a) Born on the Fourth July
- (b) Driving Miss Daisy
- (c) Field of Dreams
- (d) My Left Foot

16. What is the limit upto which the Agricultural loan by banks is waived by the new Government of India?

- (a) Rs 5,000 (b) Rs 7,000
- (c) Rs 10,000 (d) Rs 12,000

17. Which of the following statements is True about Mr S.R. Bom-

OBJECTIVE-TYPE QUESTIONS

mai?

- (a) He has been inducted in the Central Cabinet as a Cabinet Minister
- (b) He has been nominated as a member of the Planning Commission
- (c) He has been elected as the interim President of the Janata Dal
- (d) He has taken over as the Governor of Tamil Nadu

18. Who among the following is NOT a cricket player?

- (a) Sanjay Manjrekar
- (b) Ajay Jadeja
- (c) Sachin Tendulkar
- (d) Vishwanathan Anand

19. 'Italia-90' is the world level competition of which of the following games?

- (a) Hockey
- (b) Football
- (c) Badminton
- (d) Lawn Tennis

20. The much discussed Tehri Dam Project is being constructed on which of the following rivers?

- (a) Yamuna
- (b) Ganga
- (c) Gomti
- (d) Bhagirathi

21. The first nuclear submarine acquired by the Indian Navy is named as:

- (a) Maitri
- (b) Chakra
- (c) Gangotri
- (d) Nag

22. The eleventh Asian Games of 1990 were held in which of the following countries?

- (a) Bangladesh
- (b) Pakistan
- (c) Singapore
- (d) China

23. Pepsi Cola Inc. is:

- (a) an English firm
- (b) an American Company
- (c) a Swedish firm
- (d) a Japanese firm

24. Which of the following countries has closed the Indian mission in her capital recently?

- (a) Pakistan
- (b) Fiji
- (c) Solomon Islands
- (d) Nigeria

25. What is the interest rate per cent per annum for the deposit kept with nationalised banks for 46 days upto one year?

- (a) 4
- (b) 5
- (c) 6
- (d) 8

26. Since when did the Small Industries Development Bank start

functioning?

- (a) April 1989
- (b) July 1989
- (c) October 1989
- (d) April 1990

27. According to the 1990-91 Central Union Budget the estimated overall deficit will be around:

- (a) Rs 12000 crore
- (b) Rs 15000 crore
- (c) Rs 7000 crore
- (d) Rs 9000 crore

28. Which of the following is the only member of the G-15 from the Indian Sub-Continent?

- (a) Pakistan
- (b) Bangladesh
- (c) Nepal
- (d) None of these

29. In which year some more commercial banks (in addition to the first lot of 14) were nationalised in India?

- (a) 1976
- (b) 1979
- (c) 1980
- (d) 1982

30. Which of the following is a member of the Parliament from Amethi Constituency?

- (a) Mr V.P. Singh
- (b) Mr Rajiv Gandhi
- (c) Mr Chandra Shekhar
- (d) Mr Devi Lal

31. Why was Darba Kalan in the news recently?

- (a) Sri Chautala won the assembly by-election from there
- (b) This is the proposed site of much discussed Disney Land Project in Haryana
- (c) This is the site of the proposed Atomic Power Project in M.P.
- (d) A highly sophisticated gas based power plant is being developed there

32. According to a report published recently by U.N.O. the estimated population of India in 1990 is about:

- (a) 900 million
- (b) 850 million
- (c) 800 million
- (d) 750 million

33. What were the approximate total deposits (in crores of rupees) in all the scheduled commercial banks in India by the end of Dec 89?

- (a) 25,000
- (b) 50,000

(c) 1,00,000

(d) Above 1,50,000

34. All previous laws on which of the following subjects given in the ninth schedule of the Constitution are now beyond litigation?

- (a) Small Scale Industries
- (b) Direct Taxes
- (c) Heavy industries
- (d) Land reforms

35. The Bharat Ratna was recently conferred upon which of the following posthumously?

- (a) Dr Radhakrishnan
- (b) Sri M.G. Ramachandran
- (c) Sri K. Kamraj
- (d) Dr B.R. Ambedkar

36. The employees of which of the following industries are the beneficiary of the Bachawat Award?

- (a) Steel & mines
- (b) Oil & Petroleum
- (c) Newspapers
- (d) Sugar

37. Who among the following is a nominated member of the Rajya Sabha?

- (a) R.K. Dhawan
- (b) P.C. Alexander
- (c) Jagmohan
- (d) Bhurcial

38. Ayatollah R. Khomeini was the religious leader of which of the following countries?

- (a) Iran
- (b) Iraq
- (c) Afghanistan
- (d) Egypt

39. Who is the chairman of the National Front?

- (a) Mr Devi Lal
- (b) Mr V.P. Singh
- (c) M. Karunanidhi
- (d) None of these

40. Which of the following is NOT 'Peth' of one of the four Shankaracharyas in India?

- (a) Badrinath
- (b) Shringeri
- (c) Dwarka
- (d) Mathura

ANSWERS

- | | | | |
|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| 1. (a) | 2. (b) | 3. (d) | 4. (c) |
| 5. (b) | 6. (d) | 7. (c) | 8. (d) |
| 9. (a) | 10. (c) | 11. (d) | 12. (b) |
| 13. (a) | 14. (d) | 15. (b) | 16. (c) |
| 17. (c) | 18. (d) | 19. (b) | 20. (d) |
| 21. (b) | 22. (d) | 23. (b) | 24. (b) |
| 25. (d) | 26. (d) | 27. (c) | 28. (d) |
| 29. (c) | 30. (b) | 31. (a) | 32. (c) |
| 33. (d) | 34. (d) | 35. (d) | 36. (c) |
| 37. (c) | 38. (a) | 39. (d) | 40. (d) |

Descriptive Questions

Below we publish answers to some more Descriptive Type questions put in recent examinations. This special feature, which we started with the September, 1990, issue of "C.M." in response to our readers' requests, has proved very popular.

The following questions were put in the Descriptive Type test held by the BSRB, Chandigarh, recently. We thank Mr Rajiv Kumar Kaushal of Patiala and many others for sending us a copy of the question paper.

Q. 1. Should smoking be banned in Government offices? Give three reasons in favour and three against it.

Arguments for the view

1. As is well known, smoking is highly injurious to health. If people in government offices do not stop smoking, their health is bound to suffer. When their health suffers, their work is bound to suffer too. That would mean a further setback to the general office efficiency.

2. Apart from general efficiency, there would be still further delay in the disposal of public business. Every few minutes a clerk, a stenographer or a superintendent would interrupt his work in order to light a cigarette and have a few puffs to satisfy his craze for Lady Nicotine. The resultant stifling smoke is hardly conducive to good public relations.

3. Smoking inevitably pollutes the atmosphere, fills the air in congested office-rooms with smoke black soot and carbon dioxide. Uncleared accumulated smoke makes both visitors and office workers cough repeatedly. Such persistent coughing soon becomes a nuisance to everyone.

4. The expenditure on cigarettes cuts into the family budget and is a

drain in these hard times. In almost every budget cigarettes and "biris" are made costlier; thus the financial drain continually increases.

Arguments Against the view

1. An official ban on smoking in offices is unlikely to be strictly observed by all workers. There is likely to be open defiance of such an order by some and secret defiance by those who are habituals and incorrigible addicts. They will invent excuses every now and then to leave their seats and go to the bath-room or a place outside the office for a smoke. Their frequent absence from their seats will inevitably result in delayed disposal of business and keep the visitors waiting.

2. Though injurious to health, smoking (like tea) does provide some relief from boring, routine work. It is not always that smoking halts speedy disposal of work. A few puffs on the cigarette may even help promote clear thinking, relieve tension, and help a person to relax.

3. All smokers tend to form friendships and become social, especially with others who also are fond of tobacco. Non-smokers are generally less social and do not easily mix up with others. So a ban would not be advisable, though it is desirable to impress upon all office workers and others not to fall victims to Nicotine.

Education System

Q. 2. "Inequality of education in India is a great threat to the nation." Comment on this statement. Give two reasons for and two against this view.

Ans. India's education system is inequitable, faulty and does not provide equal opportunities for children of all sections of society. Now and then, committees of experts are a

pointed to rectify the flaws and make the system more effective. Unfortunately, every reform in this arena has intensified the faults or at best made cosmetic, ineffective changes.

Arguments for the view

1. The inequality of education does create a threat to the nation because of the sense of insecurity it creates, the intense feelings of resentment and discontent it breeds and the lopsided social structure it promotes.

2. The system caters largely to the tastes and requirements of the elite, while the urgent need is to educate and enlighten the masses. The per capita expenditure on education of the poor masses is much too low, even though there is universal agreement that educated, intelligent masses are a great asset to a country's security, while ignorant, uninformed people constitute a drag.

3. A small section—the educated, pampered elite—cannot by themselves ensure national defence and security. They mostly become snobs and ease loving. They shirk work and live a luxurious life. They often become security risks. Complete involvement of contented masses is essential to ward off threats to the country's safety and stability. For this an equitable education system is a pre-requisite.

Arguments Against the view

1. It is not the education system that can guarantee adequate national defence and ward off all threats to security. What really matters is the equipment, a well-oiled military machine, and an efficient, fully motivated fighting force, even if the defence personnel are not properly educated.

2. The nationalist Vietnamese, of whom the majority were not well

educated, fought off the formidable U.S. challenges and even compelled the U.S.—the world's strongest military power—to withdraw from their country. So it is the nationalist, patriotic fervour and firm determination that make all the difference, not the pattern of schools and the system of education. In fact, elitism and the associated economic prosperity do not guarantee efficient military capability.

3. Army and Air Force commanders are in any case well educated in all branches of military know-how. They are the people whose judgement, decisions and policies really ensure a sound strategy and the security of the nation. The Jawans obey orders and fight when and where required. Other qualities such as the highest degree of physical fitness, patriotic sentiments, adequate military training, familiarity with weapons and strict discipline matter much more in the battlefield.

Friends and Friendship

Q.3. "A friend in need is a friend indeed." Give three examples from your own experience.

Ans. Friendship is an intangible virtue; in fact, life is a virtual wilderness without friends and sincere, dependable well wishers. Common interests and cordial companionship generally lead to the promotion of sincere friendship. But real friendship can be tested only when one is in distress and urgently needs support in various forms and unfailing assistance, especially in adversity. I mention below three examples of such friends.

1. Some time ago, I found myself in serious financial difficulties; my assets had dwindled greatly while my debts mounted. I hesitantly approached an old friend. He promptly arranged the substantial amount of money I needed. I later learnt from another source that since he did not have the requisite amount, he had borrowed it from a rich colleague and had paid interest on it. But he never mentioned this fact to me and did not

even ask me for the interest charges he had to pay. Of such stuff are good friends made.

2. Recently, my old mother fell seriously ill and had to be rushed to hospital where she had to undergo several surgical operations. A close friend of mine stayed with me at the hospital day and night, ignoring his family responsibilities and even risking his job because of the frequent periods of leave and repeated late arrivals for performing his duties. He proved a true friend.

3. I belong to a poor family: my father, who was a petty businessman, suffered heavy losses and was in no position to look after and arrange matrimonial alliances for my young sisters. Then, in response to my prayers to the Almighty, came an angel in human shape—an almost forgotten friend who had gone abroad and suddenly met me after a long interval. On learning of our family's plight, he searched day and night for suitable young men who were not greedy for dowry and who readily accepted my father's requests. Most of the wedding expenses were borne by my friend and when I urged him to let me know how much he had spent, he brushed aside my pleadings with the unforgettable words: "Your sisters are my sisters—I do not have any family obligations of my own, and it has given me much psychological satisfaction that I have been of help to you at a time when you needed assistance most. Thank God for it all, not me. It is Providence that comes to good people's rescue; what are we poor mortals but tools in the hands of the Almighty?"

I regard myself lucky that I have such sincere friends and not mere fun-seekers who make excuses when someone asks them for monetary or other help to tide over a crisis.

Frozen Earth

Q. 4. If all the water on this earth freezes, what will be the consequences? Give at least three points.

Ans. Calamities do occur now and then—some really disastrous and others of lesser dimensions but highly

damaging all the same.

1. If all the water available to us freezes through some cruel act of Nature, life would become impossible. It is a universally admitted fact that there can be no life on earth. Water is life. If no water is available for drinking, cooking and washing purposes, there would be virtually no life. Dehydration would result in countless deaths. The frozen water would have to be melted on fire of some kind. Fuel already in short supply, would become scarce after some time.

2. If all the water freezes, there would be no water for birds and animals to drink. Like human beings they too would die of thirst. And if no milk is available because of the extinction of milch cattle, children would be deprived of essential nourishment. What would be the fate of millions of infants cannot even be imagined. The consequential deaths by the million would turn this earth into a vast burial or cremation ground.

3. If the rivers, lakes and the sea also get frozen, the consequences would add to the disaster. Fish and other living creatures would die after some time, thus sharply curtailing the supply of food to people who depend on fish and sea creatures for food.

4. When only ice is available and not water, plant life would also wither away. Agriculture would become impossible until most of the frozen fluids melt. That could take a long time. In fact, the distressed humanity would pray all the time for the sun to shine every day so that the frozen water would melt and make fluids available in various forms for drinking purposes.

5. If the large rivers and the seas get frozen, means of communication such as boats, ships, etc. would become redundant. There would be no international trade by sea. The world would have to rely on the highly expensive air travel. Sea-ports and navies would be rendered idle; only ice-breakers would be much in demand to facilitate navigation.

THE EXAMINER'S GUESS QUESTIONS

Q. Who was Sir George Everest?

Ans. He was a pioneer in the field of surveying and also Surveyor General of India from 1830 to 1843. In recognition of his contribution to science and to honour his great creative genius the world's highest peak, Mount Everest, has been named after him. On October 4 and 5 the Survey of India celebrated his birth Bicentenary.

Q. Who has been elected as the first Chancellor of the United Germany which came into being on October 3, 1990?

Ans. Dr Helmut Kohl.

Q. On which day is the International Shelter Day celebrated?

Ans. October 1.

Q. What is "People of India Project"?

Ans. The "People of India Project" was launched on October 2, 1985 by the Anthropological Survey of India (ASI) to generate a brief descriptive anthropological profile of all communities in the country. It has identified 4,384 communities in all States and Union Territories of India. The identified communities include 426 Scheduled Tribes, 443 Scheduled Castes, and 1,051 Backward Classes.

Q. What amount of crude oil production, by India, is projected for 1990-91?

Ans. 34 million tonnes. The demand is estimated to be 58 million tonnes.

Q. Who was known as 'Gandhi of Arambagh'?

Ans. Prafulla Chandra Sen; former Chief Minister of West Bengal.

Q. What amount has been cleared by the World Bank for the Sardar Sarovar Dam in the Narmada River Valley Project?

Ans. Rs 1,200 crore.

Q. According to the latest report of World Bank which country

has the highest per capita income in 1989?

Ans. Switzerland. Its per capita income is \$ 30,270. The countries following Switzerland are: Japan (\$ 23,730), Norway (\$ 21,850), Sweden (\$ 21,710), Iceland (\$ 21,240) and USA (\$ 21,000). At the bottom of the list were Ethiopia and Tanzania with per capita income of only \$ 120.

India's per capita income was recorded at \$ 350.

Q. Which east European country has recently joined International Monetary Fund (IMF) as its 152nd member?

Ans. Czechoslovakia. Its quota, or share in the IMF, has been fixed at 590 million special drawing rights which amounts to around \$ 826 million.

Q. As on September 20, 1990 how many countries were members of GATT?

Ans. 99. Venezuela, Bolivia and Tunisia joined GATT in September 1990.

Costa Rica is likely to become the 100th member after its ratification.

GATT members qualify for most-favoured nation (MFN) trading status with other member States, and if they think they are being treated unfairly, they can take their dispute to a GATT panel.

Q. What is the objective of the Commonwealth Equity Fund?

Ans. The objective of the Fund is long-term capital appreciation through investment in equity or equity related securities, of enterprises established in Commonwealth developing countries or in other countries, but whose principal business is in Commonwealth developing countries.

The Fund has been launched with 56.5 million US dollars raised by private placement with institutional investors in Canada, USA and

Europe.

The operation of Fund is expected to provide foreign investment in developing Commonwealth countries and contribute to stock market and capital market development.

Q. What amount of outlay has been approved for the 8th Five Year Plan?

Ans. Rs 6,10,000 crore. The outlay for the public sector will be Rs 3,35,000 crore (Rs 2,80,000 crore of investment and Rs 55,000 crore of revenue expenditure), showing an increase of 34 per cent, in real terms, as compared to the 7th Plan.

The 8th Plan size has been fixed on the basis of 5.5 per cent growth rate in GDP, domestic savings rate of 22 per cent, a net inflow of external resources at 1.6 per cent and an incremental capital.

The basic thrust will be on rationalisation programme for agricultural development with special emphasis on rain-fed areas.

Q. How many newspapers in India are more than 100 years old?

Ans. 37. The Bombay Samachar, a Bombay-based Gujarati daily is the oldest. It was started in 1882.

An English weekly from Calcutta was the first newspaper to be published in India. Started in 1780 it appeared under three different names: "Bengal Gazette", "Calcutta General Advisor" and "Hicky's Gazette".

Q. What is the name of the Panda mascot of Beijing Asian Games?

Ans. Pan Pan.

Q. Who was the flag bearer of the Indian contingent at the Beijing Asian Games?

Ans. P.T. Usha.

Q. What amount of foodgrains were produced by India in 1989-90?

Ans. 172.50 million tonnes. The target for 1990-91 has been fixed at 176.50 million tonnes.

SPORTS

GAMES

Beijing Asian Games

On September 22, 1990 President of the People's Republic of China, Mr Yang Shangkun, declared the XI Asian Games open, at the Workers' Stadium, Beijing, amidst unbound enthusiasm and thunderous applause from an estimated 80,000 spectators.

The highlight of the opening ceremony was the parachuting demonstration. In a spectacular performance the parachutists brought down the flags of the 36 participating nations and landed perfectly on the balloons placed in the middle of the ground.

After the completion of the formalities the participating nations trooped in a march past in their respective colourful and multi-hued uniforms. They came in the Chinese alphabetical order, Maldives leading the parade and hosts, China, forming the rear.

The giant flame was lit by the former world table tennis champion, Chen Longcan. For India the torch bearer was Pargat Singh, captain of the Indian hockey team. The Indian contingent was led by ace athlete P.T. Usha.

A total of 5,231 athletes and officials from 36 countries participated in the Beijing Games. Missing were Iraq, suspended by the Olympic Council of Asia for its invasion of Kuwait, and Jordan, who officially pulled out for "financial reasons". The biggest delegation was sent by China (674 athletes and officials) followed by South Korea (583). The smallest came from Palestine, which sent two athletes and one official.

Closing Ceremony: Another edition of the continental games was consigned to the pages of history as Beijing bade a dazzling farewell to the XI Asian Games with a spectacular show.

The razzle and dazzle of the cultural pageantry mounted by some

10,000 youth, filled the Beijing Workers' Stadium with a sound and light show that cast a spell on the 72,000 spectators inside the venue and millions all over Asia.

A brief formal function preceded the show, during which the Olympic Council of Asia's (OCA) vice-president, Mr Roy de Silva of Sri Lanka, declared the games closed and invited the youth of Asia to assemble at Hiroshima (Japan) for the XII Asian Games in 1994.

Pan Pan, the lovable giant Panda, chosen as the mascot for the Beijing games, made his first physical appearance at the Workers' Stadium, bidding farewell to thousands of spectators. He was greeted in front of the VIP podium by the pair of pigeons, called Poppu and Cuccu, mascots of the 1994 Games.

Highlights

China reigned supreme throughout the games. They outclassed everyone in every sphere and finished with 341 medals which included 183 Gold, 107 Silver and 51 Bronze. They were followed by South Korea with 181 medals and Japan with 174 medals.

Top 10 athletes: The five men are: sprinter Talal Mansoor of Qatar, swimmer Shen Jianqiang of China, sprinter Mohammad al Malki of Oman, decathlete Kaneko Munehiro of Japan and soccer player Kim Joosung of South Korea.

The five women are: cyclist Zhong Lingwei of China, archer Kim Soonyung of S. Korea, high-jumper Sato Megumi of Japan, gymnast Li Chun-mi of N. Korea and badminton player Susy Susanti of Indonesia.

Gymnastics: Chinese dominance was complete in Gymnastics. They were winners of both the men's and women's team titles. Chinese gymnast Li Jing was declared the best gymnast among men and Chen Cuiling best gymnast among women.

Table Tennis: China, which ruled world men's table tennis for two

decades, settled for a lowly bronze. It was the first time that China had failed to win a silver or gold in Asian Games table tennis. The men's team title was won by S. Korea who defeated N. Korea 5-4. The women's title was won by China who defeated S. Korea.

Tennis: China, in their bid to be the best in every discipline of Asian Games, met with a surprise success when their team beat the favourites, South Korea, to clinch the gold medal. India and Indonesia had to settle for the bronze.

Golf: Japan, who only slipped in the second round, played steady to win the gold. Philippines took the silver and South Korea bronze. India finished fifth.

Swimming: Chinese women swept all the 15 gold medals at stake. In the men's section China could claim only 8 gold medals. Japan claimed 7 and South Korea one.

The diving gold medal in men's and women's team event was won by China.

Badminton: China made a clean sweep of the team events. The Chinese men defeated Malaysia while their women defeated Indonesia.

Hockey: In the women's hockey Korea retained the crown. They overran China 3-1 in the deciding game to win the gold for the second time. Japan got the bronze. India could manage fourth position.

In the men's section Pakistan defeated India 3-2 to win the gold medal. Malaysia took the bronze.

Archery: Asia Cup champions, India, crashed out of the competition without any medals. The gold medal in the men's team title was won by South Korea. Silver medal was won by Japan and bronze by Taipei.

In the women's team event also South Korea got the gold medal. The silver went to North Korea and Bronze to Taipei.

Basketball: South Korea shocked the Asian Games defending champions, China, to win the women's basketball gold. The men's event was won by China.

Football: Iran took the gold medal when they defeated S. Korea 4-1 in a tie-breaker. The women's football gold was won by China.

Athletics: Talal Mansoor of Qatar was declared the fastest man of the Games when he won the 100m race in 10.30 seconds. In the women's section the fastest athlete was Tian Yumei of China.

The marathon was won by Kim Won-tak of South Korea in the men's section and Zhao Youpeng of China in women's section.

Lee Fu-an of Taiwan was Decathlon champion and Ma Mialan of China was Heptathlon Champion.

Dismal performance by India: India finished 11th on the medals table with a lone gold from Kabaddi. This was the worst ever performance in Asian Games. In all India could win only 23 medals which included one gold, 8 silver and 14 bronze. The most disappointing performances were from men's weightlifters, golfers and athletes. Women's hockey team also performed badly.

The Indian medal winners were.

Gold: Kabaddi team.

Silver: Men's hockey team; Jyotsna Dutta (women's weightlifting 82.5 kg); Bharati Singh (women's weightlifting 82.5 kg jerk); 4 × 400M women's relay team (Pranti Mishra, P. Shantimol, K. Saramma, P.T. Usha); P.T. Usha (400m); Dina Ram (3000 M steeplechase); Ombir Singh (wrestling 48 kg class); 4 × 100M women's relay team (P.T. Usha, K. Saramma, Zenia and Ashwani Nachappa).

Bronze: Rosa Kutty (800M); S.D. Eshan (shot put); Homi Motivala and Pushpendra Garg (sailing, enterprise class); Faraokh Tarapore and Cyrus Cama (sailing, 470 classes); Gopal Devang (boxing, light middle weight division); Subhash Verma (wrestling, 100 kg); N. Kunjarani (weightlifting women 44 kg); Chhaya Adak (weightlifting women 52 kg); Soma Dutta (shooting); Ramanjit Singh and Dalbir Singh (light weight double

sculls); R.S. Bhanwala and Surinder Singh (men's coxless pairs); Tennis team (S. Vasudevan and Zeeshan Ali); Dalbir Singh (men's light weight single scull); Surinder Singh, Jasbir Singh, P.M. Pathak and Gajendran (coxless quartet).

The final medals tally of first 15 countries was:

Country	G	S	B	T
China	183	107	51	341
South Korea	54	54	73	181
Japan	38	60	76	174
North Korea	12	31	39	82
Iran	4	6	8	18
Pakistan	4	1	7	12
Indonesia	3	6	21	30
Qatar	3	2	1	6
Thailand	2	7	8	17
Malaysia	2	2	4	8
India	1	8	14	23
Mongolia	1	7	9	17
Philippines	1	2	7	10
Syria	1	0	2	3
Oman	1	0	0	1

Detailed results of Beijing Asian Games will be given in the December 1990 issue — Editor.

Bangkok to stage 1998 Games

The Olympic Council of Asia today chose Bangkok to host the 1998 Asian Games, OCA delegates said.

Bangkok has staged the games three times previously, in 1966, 1970 and 1978.

1996 Olympics awarded to Atlanta

The US city of Atlanta has been awarded the 1996 centenary Olympic Games. Besides Atlanta, Athens (Greece) tried hard to get the right to hold the 1996 Games. It was the sentimental favourite as the birth place of the ancient Olympics and their modern revival in 1896.

The 1992 Olympics are to be held in Barcelona (Spain)

ATHLETICS

4th International Permit Meet

The meet was the last international tournament in which East and West Germany took part as two countries. On the concluding day of the two-day meet, held at New Delhi on September 18-19, 1990, the athletes from the two Germanys merged together in running a lap, symbolising the spirit of unification.

Results (Men):

100M: Darrent Braithwaite (UK); **400M:** Butch Reynolds (USA); **5000M:** Ezekiel Bitok (Kenya); **3000M:** Jane Warjiku Ngatho (Kenya); **400M hurdles:** Gidon Yego (Kenya); **Triple Jump:** E. Bedenickuk; **Discus Throw:** Wolfgang Schmidt (FRG); **High Jump:** Sergey Malchenko (USSR); **Hammer Throw:** Tibor Geesek (Hungary); **200M:** John Regis (UK); **1500M:** Joel Jeter (Kenya); **110M hurdles:** Tonic Campbell (USA); **4 × 100M relay:** Austria/Hungary; **Long jump:** Shyam Kumar (India); **Javelin:** Arnt Pederson (Denmark); **Shot put:** Kalman Konya (FRG); **3000M Steeplechase:** Boniface Merande (Kenya).

Results (Women):

100M: Evelyn Ashford (USA); **400M:** Olga Nazarova (USSR); **3000M:** Jane Wanjiku Ngatho (Kenya); **100M hurdles:** Reeth Abraham (India); **Javelin throw:** Petra Felke (GDR); **200M:** Sabine Gunther (GDR); **1500M:** Eileen Kiessling (GDR); **High jump:** Yelina Yelissina (USSR); **Discus:** Martina Hellman (GDR).

BADMINTON

North zone inter-State Championship

Chadha Cup (Men): Railways

Rahimtola cup (women): Railways

CHESS

Natwest Masters International tournament

International Master V. Ravikumar of India held W.G.M. Mald of Hungary to a draw to annex the seventh Natwest Masters International Chess tournament with a tally of six points.

FOOTBALL

IFA Shield Tournament

East Bengal were declared winners of the IFA Shield Tournament for 1990 after Mohammedan Sporting refused to continue play after a dispute over the goal scored by Kuljit Singh of East Bengal in the 44th minute.

TENNIS

Davis Cup semi-finals

USA defeated Austria and Australia defeated Argentina to win the semi-finals of the 1990 Davis Cup tournament.

Current General Knowledge

ABBREVIATIONS

IPCL: Improved Pace and Content of Learning.

MIGA: Multilateral Investment Guarantee Agency.

PACER: Programme for Acceleration of Commercial Energy Research.

SYGC: SAARC Year of the Girl Child.

AWARDS

Jamnalal Bajaj Awards, 1990

Jamnalal Bajaj Birth Centenary Special Award: Mr Nelson Mandela, South African freedom fighter, for his contributions to the cause of human freedom.

For constructive work: Mr Tirath Ram of Himachal Pradesh.

For application of science and technology for rural development: Mr Shreepad Dabholkar of Kolhapur in Maharashtra.

For upliftment and welfare of women and children: Mrs Ratan Shastri of Rajasthan.

International award for promoting Gandhian values abroad: Dr A.T. Ariyaratne of Sri Lanka.

The awards consist of a citation, a medal and a cash prize of Rs one lakh. The Bajaj awards are one of the most prestigious awards given in India to recognise the services of eminent social workers and reformers.

Moortidevi Award, 1989

The Bharatiya Jnanpith 1989 Moortidevi Award has been given to Dr Vidya Niwas Misra, the well-known Sanskrit and Hindi scholar and essayist, for a collection of essays *Mahabharat ka Kavyartha* (the poetic implications of the Mahabharat).

The award consists of a citation, a plaque, a replica of the goddess Saraswati and a cheque for Rs 50,000.

Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar Prizes, 1989

Physical Sciences: Prof M.

Lakshmanan, Department of Physics, Bharatidasan University, Tiruchirappalli and Prof N.V. Madhusudan, Raman Research Institute, Bangalore.

Chemical Sciences: Prof S. Chandrasekharan of Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore and Prof M.K. Choudhuri of North Eastern Hill University, Shillong.

Biological Sciences: Prof S.C. Lakhotia of Benaras Hindu University, Varanasi and Dr (Mrs) Manju Ray of Jadavpur University, Calcutta.

Engineering Sciences: Dr S. Banerjee, Bhabha Atomic Research Centre, Bombay and Dr G.V. Rao, Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre, Trivandrum.

Mathematical Science: Prof Gopal Prasad, TIFR Bombay.

Earth, Atmosphere, Ocean and Planetary Sciences: Dr P. C. Paudey, Space Application Centre, Ahmedabad.

The award carries Rs 50,000 in cash, a citation and a memento.

Indira Priyadarshini Vrikshmitra Awards, 1989

The awards were instituted in 1986 by the National Wastelands Development Board to recognize outstanding contributions of individuals and organisations in the field of afforestation and wastelands development. Ten awards are given every year in five categories—individuals, panchayats, educational institutions, voluntary agencies and government agencies. Each award carries a medallion, a scroll of honour and Rs 50,000 in cash.

The 1989 award winners were: Mr M. Padmanabha Reddy, Divisional Forest Officer, Andhra Pradesh; Mr Sona-ullah Baniballi, an environmentalist from J & K; the Ecological Task Force of the 129 Infantry Battalion, Rajasthan; the Jungle Surakhya Samiti, Orissa; the Brahmanand Mahavidyalaya, Uttar Pradesh; the Sreerampuram Village Protection Committee, West Bengal;

Mr A.M. Murugappa, Chettiar Research Centre, Madras; the Uttara Kannada District Forest Department, Karnataka; and the Howrah Social Forestry Range, West Bengal.

Sangeet Akademi Award, 1990

Music

K.G. Ginde (Hindustani vocal)

D. Kulkarni (Hindustani vocal)

N. Rajan (Hindustani instrumental—violin)

Abdul Latif Khan (Hindustani Instrumental—sarangi)

Zakir Hussain (Hindustani instrumental—tabla)

T.V. Sankaranarayanan (Carnatic—vocal)

Chitti Babu (Carnatic instrumental—veena)

T.V. Gopalkrishnan (Carnatic instrumental—mridangam)

L. Subramaniam (creative music)

C. Honappa Bhagavathar (natya sangeet—Karnataka)

P. Gadhvi (folk music—Gujarat)

R. Pathak (folk music—Assam)

Dance

Kalanidhi Narayanan (Bharatanatyam)

Thingamajam Babu Singh (Manipuri)

Shoba Naidu (Kuchipudi)

Bikram Kumbhakar (Chhau—Seraikela)

Saride Manickyamma (Adhyatma Ramayana—Andhra Pradesh)

Mangi Bai (Teratali—Rajasthan)

Theatre

Bhakti Barve-Inamdar (acting—Marathi)

Nasiruddin Shah (acting—Hindi/Urdu)

Geoffrey and Laura Kendal (direction)

Roshan Alkazi (costume-designing)

Vithabai Bhau Narayangaonkar (tamasha—Maharashtra)

Seemanchal Patra (Prahlad nataka—Orissa)

Bharat Bharti Award

Dr Ram Vilas Paswan, an eminent Hindi scholar, has been given the 1990 Bharat Bharti award.

The award has been constituted

by the U.P. Hindi Sansthan and carries a cash prize of Rs one lakh, a memento and a certificate.

BOOKS

Higher than Hope

This is a biography of Nelson Mandela. It has been authored by Fatima Meer, a professor of sociology. It focusses on the hitherto unknown aspects of the African leader's life and his struggles.

Hussein of Jordan

Written by James Lunt, it gives a detailed account of one of the most influential political leader in the Arab world—King Hussein of Jordan.

Serendip

It is the latest collection of poems by Dom Moraes. The book makes oblique reference to his travel experiences in Sri Lanka, Greece and Sweden.

The door I shut behind me

Written by Uma Parameswaran, the book gives an inside view of Indo-Canadian world, resulting from uprooting and resettlement.

PERSONS

Ariyaratne, Dr A.T.

He is the winner of the 1989 Jannalal Bajaj International award for promoting Gandhian values. He has organised voluntary *shramdan* camps of youth to serve the poor and has helped create a vast rural infrastructure of small irrigation projects, schools and public buildings. He has also shown rare courage in building up a strong peace movement in the strife-torn country. He heads the *Sarvodaya* movement in Sri Lanka.

Dabholkar, Shreepad

Mr Dabholkar was in the news for being awarded the 1989 Jannalal Bajaj award for application of science and technology for rural development. A teacher by profession, he realised the futility of the conventional education system and undertook the task of educating farmers to help them improve their produce. For this purpose he set up series of experimental cells for agricultural improvement. He has helped to raise the productivity of vineyards, in Maharashtra, to the world class and even beyond.

Dagar, Ustad Zia Mohiuddin

He was one of the last exponents of the *rudra veena* and an eminent Dhrupad teacher. He died on September 28, 1990 at the age of 62.

He represented the 19th unbroken generation of Dhrupad practitioners in the illustrious family which produced such luminaries as Behram Khan Dagar, Zakiruddin Khan, Nasiruddin Dagar and his father Ziauddin Dagar.

He not only contributed to the continuity of the ancient tradition but also addressed himself significantly to the frontiers of music.

Mandela, Nelson

Mr Nelson Mandela is the winner of Jannalal Bajaj Birth Centenary Special award for his outstanding contributions to the cause of human freedom. He has been the world's longest serving political prisoner and has emerged as a legend in his lifetime. He was imprisoned for 27 years by the white South African regime. He is viewed as a political giant, who with care and determination has fought for the liberation of his people.

Misra, Dr Vidya Niwas

He is the winner of 1989 Moortidevi award. Dr Misra is a well-known scholar of Sanskrit and Hindi.

He comes from Gorakhpur district in Uttar Pradesh. He completed his doctorate in Sanskrit from Allahabad University. He has written extensively on linguistics, literature, poetry and creative prose.

Misra, Justice Ranganath

He is the new Chief Justice of India. He succeeds Mr Sahyasachi Mukherji who died on September 25, 1990.

Mr Justice Misra was born on November 25, 1926. He was educated at Ravenshaw College, Allahabad. He enrolled himself as an advocate on September 18, 1950. He was appointed the permanent Judge of Orissa High Court on January 7, 1969. He was elevated to the Supreme Court on March 15, 1983.

He has been an exponent of the legal aid movement and has strongly advocated the setting up of Lok Adalats to reduce the burdens on

courts.

Nag, Shankar

Popular film and stage actor-director, Shankar Nag died on September 30, 1990 following a car accident at a young age of 37.

He started his career as a set designer in Marathi and Gujarati theatre while working in a Bank in Bombay. His big break came in Girish Karnad's Kannada film *On-danondhu Kaladalli* in 1977. He won the national award for best actor.

His forte was Kannada films, though he made two successful and award winning serials for television. These were 'Malgudi Days' and 'Swamy and Friends'.

Sen, Prafulla Chandra

Mr Prafulla Chandra Sen, one of the last links with the Gandhian era, died on September 25, 1990. He had given a moral tone and quality to the freedom movement in Bengal.

He was born in 1897 at Sahabad in Bihar. His father had migrated from Khulna, now in Bangladesh. For major part of his life Mr Sen lived at Arambagh in Hooghly district of West Bengal, either as a teacher or social reformer. He was also known as 'Gandhi of Arambagh'. He served as Chief Minister of West Bengal from 1962 to 1967.

Shastri, Mrs Ratan

Mrs Ratan Shastri of Rajasthan has been honoured with the 1989 Jannalal Bajaj award for upliftment and welfare of women and children. She is a Gandhian freedom fighter. She has set up Banasthali Vidyapith for women and has been running programmes to bring out the best in the lady students, making them vocationally and temperamentally equipped to face the challenges of modern life.

Tirath Ram

He has been awarded the 1989 Jannalal Bajaj award for constructive work. He is a veteran Gandhian leader and has dedicated last 60 years to the welfare of backward class people of Himachal Pradesh.

PLACE

Germany

On October 3, 1990 West and East Germans slipped into history to

emerge as a single nation after 45 years of division wrought by the Second World War.

In 1949 after it surrendered unconditionally in the Second World War the allied powers failed to reach an agreement on the terms to be imposed on Germany. Hence, separate action was taken by USSR on one hand and the western powers on the other. This resulted in the formation of two German States—the Federal Republic of Germany (W. Germany) and German Democratic Republic (E. Germany).

With nearly 80 million people, a formidable army and a potent export driven economy, the united Germany is expected to play a dominant role in the world politics. The unification will increase its population by 27 per cent and its GPP by 24 per cent.

Internally the merger will mean a heavy burden for the West German economy. Among other things, West Germany inherits a large East German budget deficit and foreign currency debt of \$ 13 billion. It will cost \$ 300 billion to \$ 650 billion to bring East Germany to West Germany standards.

PROJECTS

Magnesite project a success

An ambitious biotechnology project to purify magnesite ore using a bacteria has yielded remarkable results in field trials. The five-year project was sponsored by the Department of Biotechnology (DBT) in collaboration with a Calcutta-based private firm. It is expected to drastically reduce India's dependence on foreign countries for high-grade magnesium.

The bacteria that is all set to transform India's magnesium scenario is the *bacillus licheniformis*. Of the 25 sub-groups isolated under this *bacillus*, scientists have found nearly six that are of significance in purification. Through microbial leaching, the costs are negligible and India's huge magnesium deposits could be completely utilised.

Though nearly 10 per cent of the world's magnesium deposits are found in India, most of it is unsuitable for specialised industrial processes. While 60 per cent of the deposits are found in Salem in Tamil Nadu, 30 per

cent is located in Almora in Uttar Pradesh.

Field trials done so far have boosted the morale of workers on the project and, if the trend continues, India may well be credited with developing a technology for the 21st century.

Though the microbial leaching process is common knowledge, no country has so far taken it up on a large-scale. In this sense, India is pioneering field applications in the purification of magnesium ore.

The main impediment in the use of magnesium for industrial purposes is the presence of silica as contaminants. Most of the magnesium found in the country are contaminated up to at least six per cent of silica, while some even have 20 per cent silica.

The idea is to reduce the contaminants to less than one per cent. Conventionally, this had been done by processes that are cumbersome and expensive, a proposition unthinkable in the context of large scale use.

US funds for projects on alternative energy sources

The significant global price increase and diminished supplies of crude oil, resulting from the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait, have focussed renewed attention on the world-wide search for efficient sources of alternative energy.

The U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) is funding a novel project, Programme for Acceleration of Commercial Energy Research (PACER), which supports technology innovation and development in the Indian energy sector.

PACER is being implemented by the Industrial Credit and Investment Corporation of India Ltd (ICICI), with overall direction from the ministry of energy's department of non-conventional energy sources, under a \$ 20 million (Rs 35 crore) grant agreement with the USAID.

The project aims at promoting the development of innovative technologies in areas such as the commercially-attractive tapping of biomass; improving the efficiency of major end-use electrical equipment in industry, agriculture and the commer-

cial sector; and making better use of available generating capacity.

Space biosphere project

Four men and four women ranging in the age from 30 to 66 have been selected to spend two years isolated in a prototype of a space colony.

The environmental experiment, sponsored by a private firm, Space Biospheres Ventures, will require the eight to live inside biosphere-2, a 3-acre geodesic frame of glass and steel that is hermetically sealed from the environment of earth except for the light and energy. The experiment is to begin on December 5, 1990.

The eight will have to get their food and water from inside the self-contained structure. Electricity and information will be provided and only information will be allowed to flow out.

MISCELLANY

New illiteracy eradication plan

In its continuing efforts to eradicate illiteracy, a novel technique for effective mobilisation and participation of learners has been developed by the National Literacy Mission (NLM).

This new method known as Improved Pace and Content of Learning (IPCL) is based on three factors: programme duration, programme content and visible results.

The new strategy to be introduced on a selective basis during 1990-91 aims at designing three sets of primers corresponding to three levels of learning. Each level will be a progression or improvement from the other.

Since the three primers are based on the principles of progression in learning, the learner, through a process of intensive self-evaluation at the end of each lesson and a final evaluation at the end of each primer would be able to see for himself the pace and progress of learning.

The new system would greatly motivate the learners and would also instil an element of self-confidence to progress.

The main objective of NLM is to impart functional literacy to 80 million illiterate persons in 15-35 age group by 1995.

Improve Your Word Power

1. **abstruse:** (a) difficult to understand (b) ethereal (c) meaningless (d) shallow.
2. **agglomeration:** (a) collection (b) depletion (c) narration (d) connection.
3. **bete noire:** (a) loss (b) hateful thing (c) pleasant dream (d) white elephant.
4. **clobber:** (a) suppress (b) oppress (c) arrest (d) punish hard.
5. **dyspeptic:** (a) cynical (b) energetic (c) irritable (d) lethargic.
6. **ennui:** (a) boredom (b) pleasant journey (c) contempt (d) hatred.
7. **fervid:** (a) jittery (b) intensely emotional (c) reverent (d) hopeful.
8. **grit:** (a) backward (b) upward (c) neutral (d) courage.
9. **incubus:** (a) folklore (b) leisure (c) nightmare (d) sweet.
10. **jilt:** (a) bend (b) borrow (c) lend (d) desert.

11. **lacerate:** (a) burn (b) bury (c) injure (d) cure.
12. **meteoric:** (a) sudden success (b) heavenly (c) blissful (d) sudden fall.
13. **nitty-gritty:** (a) superstition (b) facts of matter (c) blind faith (d) customs.
14. **pellucid:** (a) smooth (b) obscure (c) comprehensible (d) doubtful.
15. **recalcitrant:** (a) faithful (b) perverse (c) sincere (d) indifferent.
16. **scary:** (a) encouraging (b) causing fear (c) cheerful (d) depressed.
17. **transmute:** (a) improve (b) acknowledge (c) transform (d) cross over
18. **unctuous:** (a) insincerely earnest (b) complacent (c) anxious (d) arrogant.
19. **witch-hunt:** (a) magic (b) miracle (c) investigation (d) enlightenment.
20. **zany:** (a) hectic (b) colourful (c) outrageous (d) crazy.

ANSWERS

1. **abstruse:** (a) difficult to understand, obscure, deep.
—Abstract art is *abstruse* in form but profound in meaning.
2. **agglomeration:** (a) collection, mass.
—Due to the ill-planned *agglomeration* of new buildings, the green space in the town has almost come to a naught.
3. **bete noire:** (b) hateful thing.
—Governmental patronage and protection was a *bete noire* to Mahatma Nehru as a writer.
4. **clobber:** (d) punish or strike hard.
—Under the new law, the police has been given wide powers to *clobber* the drunk drivers.
5. **dyspeptic:** (c) irritable.
—Quite often people suffering from high blood pressure become prone to *dyspeptic* behaviour.
6. **ennui:** (a) weariness, boredom.
—Since losing his job, my friend has often experienced a profound sense of *ennui*.
7. **fervid:** (b) intensely emotional, zealous, enthusiastic.
—On the eve of my friend's retirement from service, I made a highly *fervid* farewell speech.
8. **grit:** (d) courage, endurance.
—Mountaineering in a blizzard needs a lot of *grit* and fore-sight.
9. **incubus:** (c) nightmare.
—To some children, the very mention of an approaching examination oppresses them like an *incubus*.
10. **jilt:** (d) desert, leave suddenly/unkindly.
—The poem under discussion narrates in a sorrowful tone the emotional set-back that the *jilted* lover had to suffer.
11. **lacerate:** (c) injure (flesh), tear.
—The sharp stones are likely to *lacerate* the feet of those who walk

bare-footed.

12. **meteoric:** (a) sudden success or rapid rise.
—In politics, the *meteoric* rise of a leader creates more foes than friends.
13. **nitty-gritty:** (b) facts/realities of a matter.
—Instead of beating about the bush, let us get down to discussing the *nitty-gritty* of the problem for which we have assembled here.
14. **pellucid:** (c) comprehensible, transparent.
—Literature meant for children should be *pellucid* both in style and contents.
15. **recalcitrant:** (b) perverse, disobedient, unmanageable.
—In human relations, *recalcitrant* attitudes seldom lead to harmony and happiness.
16. **scary:** (b) causing fear or alarm.
—In their impressionable period of life, children should be dissuaded from reading *scary* ghost stories.
17. **transmute:** (c) transform, change in form.
—In former times, it was thought that ordinary metal could be *transmuted* into gold.
18. **unctuous:** (a) insincerely earnest or flattering.
—At the time of elections, contesting candidates vie with their rivals in offering *unctuous* assurances to the voters.
19. **witch-hunt:** (c) investigation, enquiry.
—It is a sheer folly on the part of powers-that-be to indulge in *witch-hunt* of their opponents when serious problems are confronting the country.
20. **zany:** (d) crazy, ridiculous.
—To look conspicuous, many a young man goes in for *zany* haircut or lifestyle.

Appointments Etc

Appointed; Elected Etc

Helmut Kohl: He has been elected as the first Chancellor of the United Germany.

Ranganath Misra: He has been appointed as the Chief Justice of India. He succeeds Justice Sabyasachi Mukharjee who died following heart attack.

Mohammad Hamid Ansari: He has been appointed India's Ambassador to Iran.

Vijay K. Nambiar: He has been appointed India's Ambassador to Afghanistan.

Surendra Kumar: He has been appointed India's Ambassador to Mozambique.

Abdus Sattar: He has been appointed Pakistan's High Commissioner to India.

Distinguished Visitors

France Albert Rene: President of Seychelles.

Hun Sen: Prime Minister of Cambodia.

Died

Kamlapati Tripathi: Veteran freedom fighter and Congress leader.

Sabyasachi Mukharjee: Chief Justice of India. He was 63.

P.C. Sen: Gandhian leader and former Chief Minister of West Bengal. He was 94.

Zia Moideen Daggar: Noted classical Dhrupad singer. He was 62.

Shankar Nag: Popular film and stage actor-director. He was 36.

Kanji Bhuta Barot: Noted folk artist. He was 72.

Dr R.V. Pandit: Noted poet, writer, scholar and freedom fighter. He was 74.

Dev Kumar: Noted film character actor. He was 67.

EVENTS

SEPTEMBER

12—The four victorious World War II allies USA, France, UK and USSR, sign historic accord with East and West Germany to return sovereignty to united Germany.

13—A blast in a nuclear fuel plant in the Soviet Central Asian Republic of Kazakhstan affects more than 3 lakh people.

14—UN Council allows food shipments to Indians trapped in Kuwait and Iraq.

15—USA recommends a massive \$ 23 billion arms package for Saudi Arabia.

16—32 persons including 14 terrorists are killed in Punjab.

—**Vishva Siddhi**, the first cargo vessel to proceed to Gulf with essential food supplies for the stranded Indians, leaves Cochin for the Port of Um Qasar near Basra in Iraq.

19—The anti-reservation agitation in New Delhi takes a ghastly turn with a college student, Rajiv Goswami, trying to self-immolate himself.

22—Asian Games open in Beijing, China.

23—11 terrorists and 2 security personnel are among 25 killed in Punjab.

—Anti-reservation stir turns violent as large-scale violence and arson is reported in Haryana, Himachal Pradesh,

New Delhi and Chandigarh.

24—The Soviet Parliament grants extra powers to President Mikhail Gorbachov to tackle the economic crisis of the country.

26—UN imposes air embargo on Iraq.

29—The World Summit on Children begins in New York.

30—The former Deputy Prime Minister, Mr Devi Lal, resigns from Lok Sabha in protest against "style, timing and the manner" in which the Prime Minister, V.P. Singh, accepted the Mandal Commission Report.

OCTOBER

1—The Supreme Court stays the implementation of Mandal Commission report.

—The 75th Constitution Amendment Bill, designed to extend President's rule in Punjab falls through in the Lok Sabha.

2—120 persons are killed in a plane crash in China.

3—East and West Germany unite into one country.

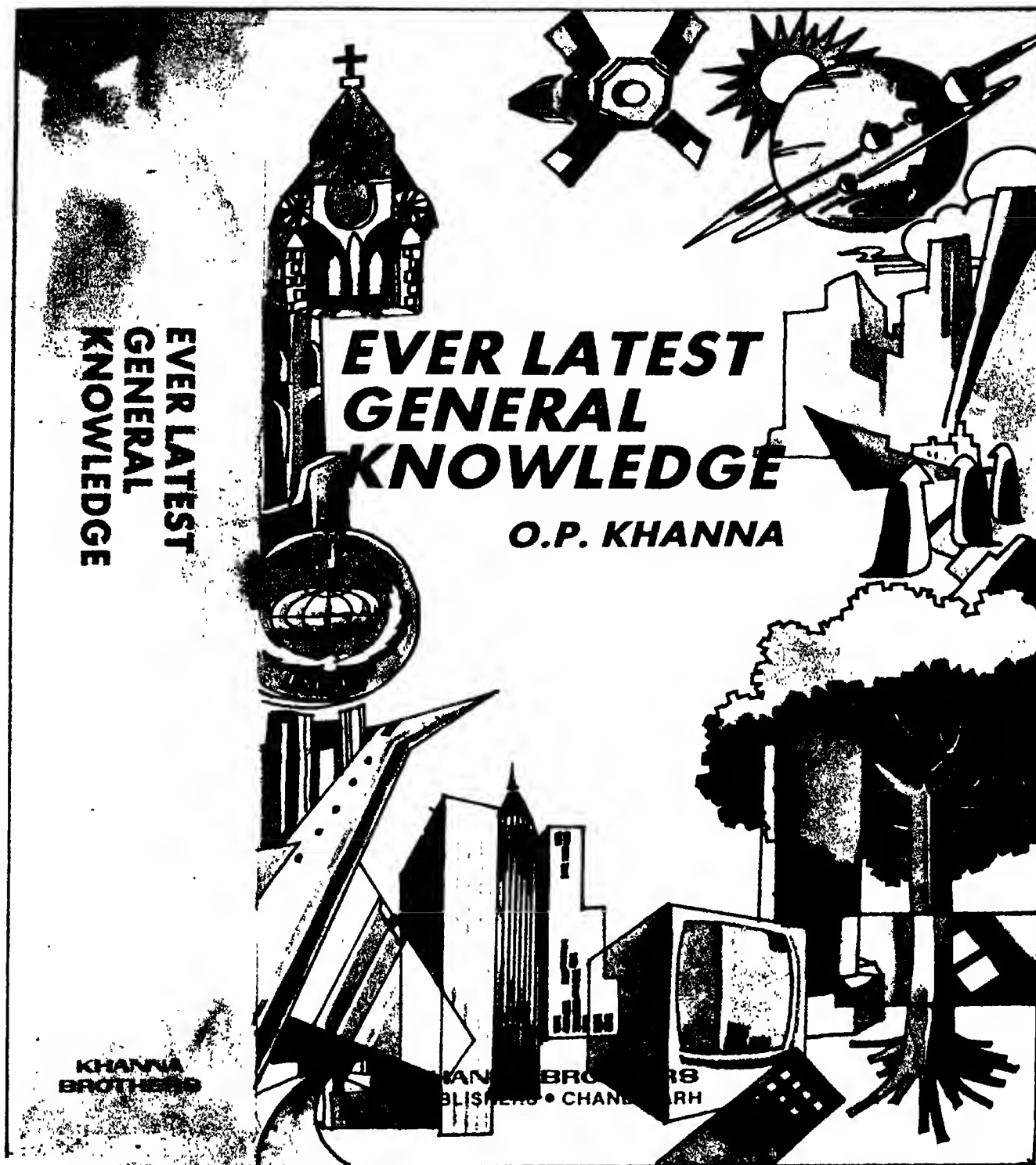
4—The 76th Constitution Amendment Bill, to extend President's rule in Punjab for six more months from November 10, 1990, is passed.

6—US military aid to Pakistan is suspended because of non-certification by President Bush regarding Islamabad's nuclear programme

7—11th Asian Games end.

9—At least 50 rail passengers are burnt alive when a fire broke out in a bogie of Kakatiya Fast passenger train near Hyderabad.

10—President's rule is imposed in Karnataka. The assembly is kept under animated suspension.



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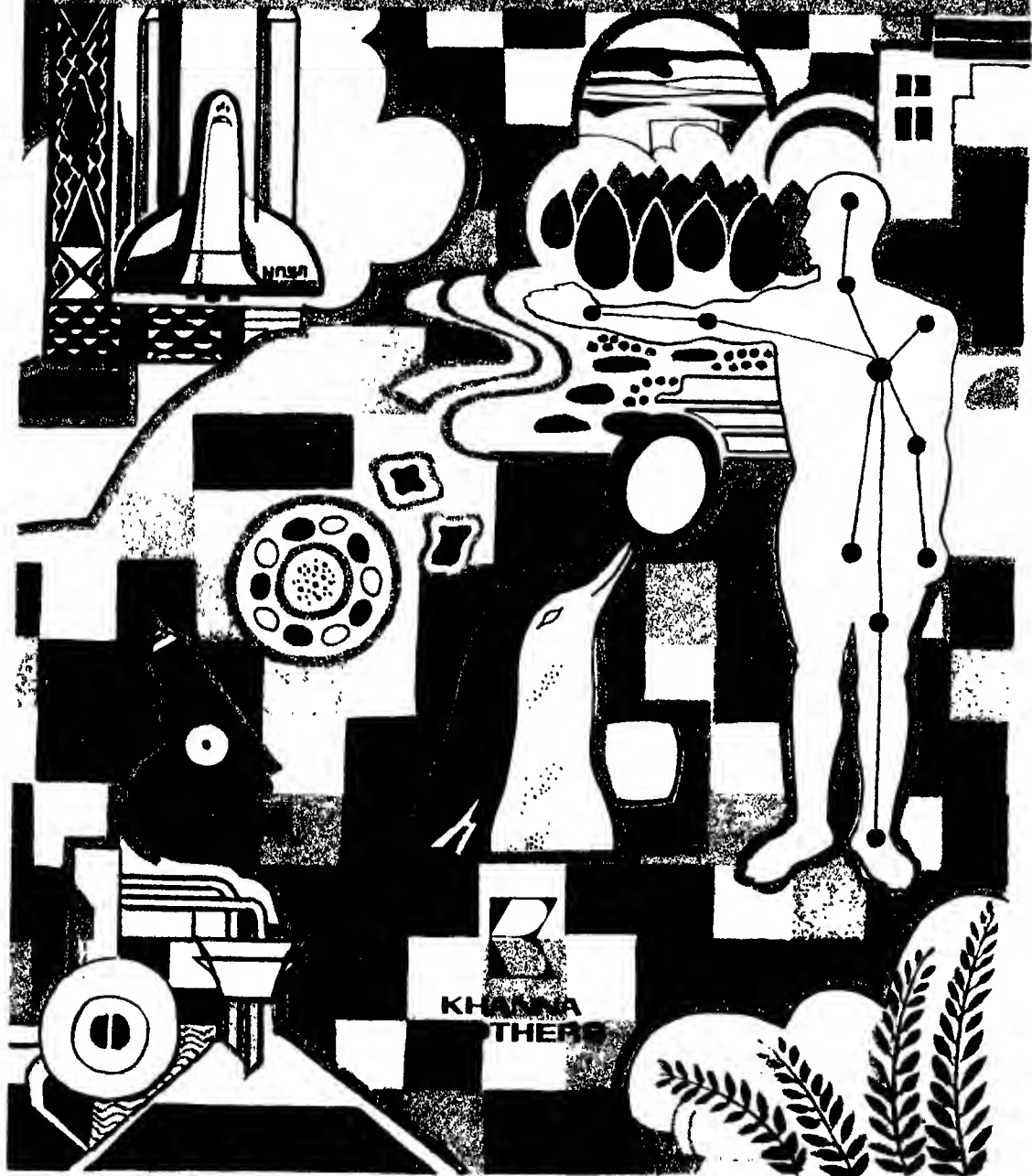
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& States: New Aid

WAR

IN

KNOWLEDGE REFRESHER

By G. P. Khanna



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The Competition MASTER

THE TOTAL AWARENESS MAGAZINE

VOLUME XXXII, No. 5 DECEMBER 1990

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A LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

Role of Youth

Dear Reader,

Many impartial and experienced veterans have in recent weeks cautioned the country's youth against the actions of several selfish political and other leaders who pretend to be their well-wishers but in reality are adept in exploiting credulous sections of society. One such warning came towards the end of October this year from no less a dignitary than former Chief of the Army Staff, Field-Marshal "Sam" Manekshaw. In his address to a youth rally he made some pertinent observations. Indiscipline, he said, is endemic in Indian society and is the basic cause of the problems facing the country.

The youth of today, the eminent military commander observed, were "frustrated, disillusioned and confused". So he advised them to distinguish between right and wrong and evolve a code of conduct for living with one another in society. The time had come, he added, for having "a very hard look" at the problems and challenges, both material and moral, facing India's youth who had a crucial role to play in nation-building.

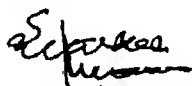
He contended that the leaders have been "fooling the people for years". Have the youth of India also been fooled? A former Governor, Mr Homi J.H. Talyar Khan, urged the youth to find solutions to the complex and multifarious problems facing the country. When the elders continually create problems, how can the youth solve them?

In our opinion, the youth can certainly play a part in nation-building, but we also feel that if they dabble too much in politics at the cost of their studies, which have already suffered heavily this year, they, as well as the country, would stand to lose. If the choice is between bright careers and working on bureaucratic schemes in the wilderness, we would unhesitatingly advise the former course.

Politics in this country, as perhaps in most developing countries, is a frustrating business, demanding much time but yielding little gain. So, even while doing their bit for the country, the youth had better beware of those who seek to exploit them for political purposes. Career-building first, politics later : that is a golden rule.

With best wishes,

Yours sincerely,



Chandra Shekhar—At Last!

The prolonged political drama in Delhi, which was marked by much suspense and haggling, ended at last; the first phase was over on the night of November 7 when Mr. V.P. Singh was ousted and the second on November 9, when his bitter but hopeful rival, Mr Chandra Shekhar, emerged as the principal claimant to the prize post of Prime Minister. But the post has been greatly devalued during the past year and the legacy left behind by Mr V.P. Singh is full of thorns and formidable challenges. The glamour is of course very much there, with a bit of shine also, but it is shorn of content and of glory that was generally associated with it.

An intellectual, administrative giant and a super man, tactful, patient and wholly honest, is required at this critical juncture when the country is caught in a multi-faceted crisis—social, economic and political. How far Mr Chandra Shekhar succeeds in the tough arenas where Mr V.P. Singh failed so ignobly remains to be seen. A baffling uncertainty and instability currently surround the Prime Minister's chair. Mr Chandra Shekhar's own following comprises only a breakaway Janata Dal faction of 68 (named JD-S) and he can survive only with the assured and unconditional support of the Congress (I) with its 193 M.P.s. Thus we have the strange, even absurd spectacle of a Prime Minister whose outside supporter is three times stronger than his own group. It is far from certain whether he will be able to last more than a year or two. Within this short period, even a man of miracles cannot solve the complex problems facing the country and heal the gaping wounds left behind by Mr V.P. Singh.

Ironically, Mr V.P. Singh started his career as Prime Minister with much hope and promise as a man of principles, an honest, sincere, confident leader who enunciated high-sounding principles. He broke most of the promises he so earnestly made. During the last phase of his Prime Ministership he turned out to be a person who was prepared to go to any extent and flout any principle that he wanted, merely to retain power. It was the unprincipled game of politics that he played. Among the principles he flouted blatantly was that of acting on consensus; he made unilateral decisions such as the one on implementation of the Mandal Report. He made himself unpopular by acting thus. His tactlessness proved his undoing. The claim he made that he had to quit office because

he fought for principles enshrined in the Constitution was untenable. He repeated this assertion several times over TV of which incidentally, he made full use. His aides made a virtual mockery of the autonomy of the electronic media—a National Front commitment.

Another notable fact is that at least two top figures, the new Prime Minister and his Deputy (Mr Devi Lal) achieved their life's ambition. Mr Devi Lal felt happy after the ouster of Mr V.P. Singh and said his life's ambition had been achieved. Mr Chandra Shekhar's ambition was to become Prime Minister—the post which he claimed was his right. While both leaders have got what they wanted, the third and the main party in the game—the people—have yet to achieve their ambition—to have a sincere Prime Minister who would concentrate on solving their urgent problems and not waste time in playing politics all the time, seeking revenge for personal wrongs, real or imaginary, ignoring his main duty and thus betraying the cause he stood for. Service of the people should be the Prime Minister's and his colleagues' motto, not enjoying patronage, obliging their friends and party pals and outwitting others in the game of musical chairs.

Much criticism has been made of the Union President's decision and of the alliance entered into by Mr Chandra Shekhar with the Congress. But from every standpoint the President's decision was sound and the best in the circumstances. He proceeded to act on principle—inviting the "Probables" and the "Possibles" strictly in the order they deserved—according to their numerical strength and capacity to carry on the administration. Mr Rajiv Gandhi rightly said he would not like to become Prime Minister because he had not received the people's mandate (in fact in the November, 1989, poll he and his party were rebuffed by the electorate). Mr L.K. Advani and the Leftists did not have the necessary majority.

The President rightly held the view that it would be very dangerous to hold an election at this time; there would have been widespread disorder and violence if the people had again been asked to go to the polls. The people are also fed up with selfish squabbling politicians and their all-out opportunism. They want a clean, honest and efficient government. This is what the new Prime Minister and his team should strive their best to ensure for their own and the country's sake.

READERS' FORUM

WAR AND PEACE

Anyone clamouring for normalcy and peace would take the 'Big Summit' outcome for granted—the gloomy clouds of war hovering over the sky have drifted for the time being. That is the silver lining for the tense world.

But the Super Powers have not resorted to this conciliatory arrangement out of any noble and cosmopolitan mission. Rather, their respective economic constraints and the sliding grip over the body politic of Europe and the Middle East have compelled them to a rational step. Both the U.S.A. and the U.S.S.R. have read the writing on the wall.

The Gulf conflict is not a cakewalk as President Bush fondly hoped initially. The tough resilience, exemplified by the stubborn Saddam Hussein, indicates further extension of the stalemate. The economic and military blockade worldwide has failed so far to deter the Iraqi autocrat.

India and other oil-importing countries are at the receiving end. While the spiralling oil price worsens the crisis in our depleting foreign exchange reserves, the sudden return of workers from the Gulf dries up a significant foreign exchange source. What a pity! It is indeed a double loss?

Samastipur Sanjoy Kumar

We should not forget what history has taught us, i.e., detente is a mere myth. The present detente which was directed with a stroke of the pen at the London summit, is not the first of its kind. We saw a previous detente (of the 1970s) going into oblivion. Moreover, what has ended is a new Cold War. The formal end of the earlier Cold War was announced during the 1960s by the United Nations.

Thus, until the game of power politics ceases to mar international relations, non-alignment will remain a permanent foreign policy option. To quote Prof. M.S. Rajan of JNU, "learning from the experience of the ephemeral character of the first wave of detente in the 1970s, it does seem that the periodical detente between the cold warriors is not durable or strong enough to effect a fundamental change in the game of international politics."

Giridih Rajiv

"ADVERTISEMENT BLITZ & FAMILY LIFE"

With consumer culture at its pinnacle and people becoming more and more

materialistic with each passing day, a wide array of catchy advertisements displayed by TV, Radio and the Press is adding fuel to the fire. One cannot help but get mesmerised by the jingles and colourful pageantry of these kaleidoscopic ads.

True, to publicise a commodity one does need to inform the general public about its benefits. But today's ads are presented in a glamorous way with a tilt towards the West. This occidental obsession in the ads is adversely affecting the impressionable minds of adolescents and youth. The overdose of these ads gives rise to an intense craving among the people, especially the youngsters, to acquire the much publicised goods, irrespective of their economic resources. This creates utter chaos and disorder in the family.

In this backdrop, one can well say that advertisements are a necessary evil.

Varanasi Jaideep Barman

The numerous advertisements, notably on T.V., have not only opened the flood-gates of cankerous consumerism but also helped to transfer rapidly luxuries into necessities. Things are advertised in an exaggerated way, if they are as vital to life as air and water are, and life is not worth living without them. The hapless viewer falls a prey to this menace. He tends to forget that "all that glitters is not gold".

Sambalpur Manoj Pujari

THE CHALLENGE

To surmount the calamities or surrender to them is the big question facing our country today. Calamities or threats of disintegration are not new to us. It was in 1905 that the British Viceroy proposed division of the presidency of Bengal. That was opposed vehemently by the entire country which rose as one man and the mighty British power had to annul the plan for partition of the presidency. But in 1947 the nation lost this determination and submitted to the demand of a section of the population and readily partitioned the country.

Now in 1990 we face the same threat from different parts of the country. The question is whether we would be able to draw inspiration from the "Bandemataram" movement of 1905 and turn the current perilous period in our country into hours of glory, or would we be helpless as in 1947?

The most testing hour can be turned into the finest hour by the people. This calls for a deep conviction that our country is indivisible.

Kurnool P. Sivaram Prasad

The twin-pronged monster of the overt caste-war conflagration and the simmering communal hatred threaten the secular

identity and composite culture of India. It points ominously to the worst ever signs raising their heads since the attainment of freedom. The dismal events of the past year have thrown the nation on the verge of an incomprehensible civil war and a spine-chilling reign of terror, thus taking our people to the infamous days of anarchy, chaos and disorder.

Patna Sanjay Kumar

MAGAZINE OF MY DREAMS

No doubt our "C.M." is No. 1 magazine in India in every field, specially in test of reasoning, current affairs and Personality development.

Please accept my heartiest congratulations for publishing the special November issue.

Jaipur Narpal Yadav

"Competition Master" is a glittering magazine in the galaxy of competition magazines. It is not only helpful for the Officers' Grade Examination but is also useful for the Clerical Cadre Examination. The coverage of each topic in each issue of 'CM' is credible.

I was highly pleased to receive the November special issue of the magazine. This issue in itself is a very useful guide.

Kaithal Tulsi Malhotra

Please accept my heartiest congratulations for publishing 16 extra pages covering questions relating to Test of Reasoning. This issue has proved very useful for various competitive examinations.

This magazine is an ocean of knowledge—current affairs, numerical ability, Test of Reasoning, etc. It is a leading magazine in this competitive age.

Nalanda Mukesh Kumar

I am a regular reader of "C.M.". It is really a key of knowledge for everyone. I have a suggestion: in the feature "Improve Your Word Power" the pronunciation should be given with words which are difficult to pronounce.

Please accept my hearty thanks for publishing the new feature entitled "Descriptive Questions".

Shahjahanpur Rajeev Singh

May be you have recently appeared in any competitive examination.

We shall be grateful if you could send us the question papers. The original papers will be returned along with the postage spent by you.

Your gesture will be highly appreciated.

Notes on Current National Affairs

- ★ *RIOTS AND DISTURBANCES GALORE*
- ★ *STATES CONSENSUS ON RIGHT TO WORK*
- ★ *DRASTIC STEPS TO MEET CRISIS*
- ★ *SPECIAL STATUS FOR ASSAM*
- ★ *NATIONAL YOUTH COUNCIL*
- ★ *INDIA SEEKS IMF LOAN TO MEET CRISIS*
- ★ *EXIT V.P. SINGH*
- ★ *CONG(I) SAVES GUJARAT MINISTRY*
- ★ *ARREST OF ADVANI: INTENSE VIOLENCE*
- ★ *KARNATAKA ADOPTS "SONS OF SOIL" POLICY*
- ★ *INDIA AND USSR NO LONGER "SPECIAL FRIENDS"?*

Riots and Disturbances Galore

For several weeks in September-October, many parts of the country witnessed communal riots, religious frenzy of unusual intensity and prolonged tensions cumulatively creating the impression of a breakdown of law and order. The determined campaign by the Vishwa Hindu Parishad, actively backed by the BJP on the one hand, and certain Muslim organisations, on the other, led to communal riots in the highly vulnerable areas.

There were police firings at some places, including Ayodhya, where the mob defied the orders of the police, partly damaged the Babri Masjid, made a mockery of the arrangements designed to prevent unlawful activity, and suffered heavy casualties. Scores of houses and shops were damaged in the disturbances and curfew had to be imposed in several towns of U.P. and other States.

The poor masses and other weaker sections of society, as usual, suffered the most in the communal riots. There were divisions on a communal basis; it seemed as if religious tolerance and secularism had become hollow slogans. Among the worst affected States were U.P., those ruled by the Congress in the South, Gujarat, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh and Andhra Pradesh.

There were numerous cases of stabbing and arson as thousands of "Kar Sewaks" of the Vishwa Hindu Parishad and the BJP made a series of attempts on October 30 (and a couple of days earlier) to occupy the Ram Janambhoomi-Babri Masjid area. The agony of violence and the heavy losses suffered by innocent people, besides those who deliberately defied police directives in pursuance of their religious convictions (about 120 lives were lost), caused much concern.

It became obvious that the law and order situation would continue to be disconcerting until there was a settlement of the Ram Temple-Babri Masjid dispute at Ayodhya. Bhagalpur was the scene of some of the worst communal riots in

recent years.

The Muslims in India and also in two neighbouring countries, Bangladesh and Pakistan, felt greatly hurt and there was backlash and a chain reaction. Reports from Bangladesh indicated that the minority community and their places of worship suffered heavily despite the concerned Government's prompt and strict measures to check the Muslim mobs from indulging in widespread destruction. Religious issues were politicised. The Rath Yatras, Bands and rumours of all types cause virtual madness and led to reckless actions by way of revenge and retaliation.

States consensus on Right to Work

The Chief Ministers of States reached a virtual consensus on the Right to Work at the National Development Council meeting in Delhi in October. Mr V.P. Singh, addressing the Council, stressed the need for States to take steps to create necessary infrastructure at the grassroot level to implement the new right. The consensus on the question of Right to Work was that the resource situation and the potential available in the country needed to be taken into account. It was agreed that the problems should be looked at carefully and implemented in a phased manner. The meeting also decided to have a committee of NDC to prepare a "practical formula".

On the impact of the Gulf crisis, which was included in the agenda at the request of the Prime Minister, the Petroleum Minister, Mr M.S. Gurupadaswamy, gave an insight into the magnitude of the problem and its adverse effect on the economy and balance of payments.

Mr Dandavate appreciated the understanding shown by the Chief Ministers about the oil crisis and urged them to take immediate steps to mop up additional resources through intensified export drive. The Gulf crisis would strain the exchequer by Rs 7,000 crore to Rs 10,000 crore and "this burden has to be borne by us".

On the States' demand for

decentralisation of centrally sponsored schemes, the Prime Minister said he would consider it. But he wanted the State governments to ensure that the decentralisation did not stop at State capitals and should percolate to the district level. He emphasised the need for strengthening the panchayat and local bodies so as to create necessary infrastructure at the grassroot level.

Drastic Steps to meet Crisis

The Union Government announced several drastic measures to meet the crisis created by the Gulf crisis. These included a 25 per cent increase in prices of petroleum, a 15 per cent cut in supplies and, even more significant, a programme to export large quantities of foodgrains. Rice, wheat, sugar and some other agricultural commodities are proposed to be exported in a bid to raise the dwindling foreign exchange reserves. These exports were expected to mop up Rs 2,000 crore to Rs 2,500 crore worth of foreign exchange in the next two months, according to official estimates. The stock position "is extremely good" and a bountiful monsoon has ensured a bumper harvest for yet another year.

The Union Cabinet has already given the green signal to the Commerce Ministry to work out modalities of the exports. The exports are likely to include one million tonnes of rice, one million tonnes of wheat and one to two lakh tonnes of sugar. Prices might rise due to some other factors beyond the Government's control. For instance, the world over the Gulf crisis was exerting a tremendous pressure on the economy. Some other agricultural commodities would also be exported to boost Government efforts to earn foreign exchange.

Government had not stopped import of edible oils as reported in some newspapers. "The imports are on", and the consumer would not suffer whatever be the constraints. That is what the Government believes.

Special Status for Assam

To soften the hostility of Assam against the Centre and to redress the grievance alleging "unfair treatment", the Union Government is reported to have offered the State the status of "special category". Under this status, 90 per cent of the Plan assistance is treated as grants.

The Centre seems to have realised that the slow pace of development and the chronic economic backwardness of the State, which is rich in natural resources, is one of the root causes of the unrest in Assam.

Development programmes in the State will now get a fillip for the State will no longer be required to spend the lion's share of its budget on debt servicing. Only a bare 10 per cent of the Plan funds would have to be repaid henceforth as against the earlier practice of repaying 70 per cent of the amount.

In view of the State's inability to generate adequate financial resources, it was sinking deeper and deeper into the debt trap, leading to grave economic problems and an abnormally high unemployment rate. The separatist movements in Assam, too, have been perceived as a manifestation of the frustration of certain sections of the population. The Asom Gana Parishad (AGP) Government is bound to project the new status of the State as its most important achievement during its five-year term which comes to an end in a few weeks.

The AGP on November 6 indicated its acceptance of the revised electoral rolls despite some flaws in it, thus clearing the way for Assembly polls. With State elections round the corner, the Janata Dal is likely to make political capital out of the decision. Though the AGP is a constituent of the National Front, there have been several occasions when the two parties have sniped at each other. In June this year, the Chief Minister had accused the Centre of not taking a sympathetic view of the problems of Assam. But the new financial status of Assam alters the political course. The State Government can have no room

for complaint on the score.

National Youth Council

The Union Government has constituted a large National Youth Council, with the Prime Minister as its Chairman, to suggest policy measures and programmes for youth. The Council, at least 30 per cent of whose members will be women, is also expected to advise the Government on measures for the implementation of the "Action Plan" of the national youth policy.

Besides, it will provide feedback on the implementation of the national youth programmes and review the coordination among various departments of the Central and State governments, voluntary organisations and other agencies.

According to a resolution of the Department of Youth Affairs, the Human Resources Development (HRD) Minister will be Deputy Chairman of the Council and the Minister of State for HRD and the Deputy Minister for Youth Affairs and Sports its two Vice-chairmen.

The step is designed to meet the imperative need to involve youth as responsible and responsive partners in nation-building activities and to equip them to meet the real challenges before the nation today. This is also meant to motivate them to imbibe higher values and develop sterling personal qualities, inculcate in them pride in and awareness of the country's rich heritage, imbue them with a passion for social justice and patriotic fervour and make them think and act as free, equal and committed citizens of a united India.

The members include State Ministers for youth affairs, M.P.s, representatives of recognised political parties, secretaries of the Union Government, Vice-Chancellors, college principals, student leaders and representatives of the Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and socially backward groups and minorities. There will also be representation of the Council of Social Scientists, voluntary organisations, State Youth Councils, national youth awardees, NCC, scouts and guides, NSS, merit

scholars, representatives from the fields of art and culture and entrepreneurs.

India seeks IMF Loan to meet Crisis

India has been facing a serious financial crisis as a result of the Gulf developments. The International Monetary Fund (IMF) team, which recently visited India, had a close look at the country's economy. The Government of India has decided to seek an "adjustment loan" from the IMF under its extended facility to ease the country's balance of payments problem. Since the negotiations for a sizable loan take about five months, New Delhi spokesmen have pleaded for a "stand-by credit" to help tide over the immediate crisis. Such a credit is expected to be about 1 to 1.5 billion dollars which amounts to Rs 1800 crore to Rs 2700 crore.

The decision to seek such a loan was made by the National Front Government at the end of October. Earlier, the issue was deferred by the Government under Mr Rajiv Gandhi's leadership, and later by Mr V.P. Singh's regime, in view of the political uncertainty.

The Gulf crisis, which has imposed an additional burden on India of some 5 billion dollars proved to be the last straw, compelling the Government of India to seek a large loan. If the price of oil goes up further, the burden on India would be still larger. A drastic cut in imports to check the burden on the foreign exchange reserves would have meant a cut in exports, apart from slowing down the growth rate of the economy.

The fall in foreign exchange reserves has indeed been serious: from Rs 5700 crore at the beginning of the current year these came down to an all-time low of Rs 3776 crore at the end of October. Debt services etc would require Rs 600 crore every month. The sharp fall in the inflow of money from NRIs worsened the position.

Exit V.P. Singh

November 7 was indeed a historic day in India's recent political his-

tory when Mr V.P. Singh, who headed a crisis-ridden National Front government for about 11 months, was voted out and resigned. The motion expressing trust in the Government was lost by a huge margin, with 356 MPs voting against it and 151 for it. The outcome of the vote was a foregone conclusion in view of the decision of the Cong(I), the BJP and the breakaway faction of the Janata Dal to vote against him. This was the first time in the history of independent India that a party in power was ousted in the Lok Sabha.

The 11-hour debate over the trust motion was notable for the blistering attack on the National Front ministry, especially its leader, for having failed on all fronts, sacrificing principles for the sake of retaining power, promoting casteism and factionalism, escalating social tensions even while claiming to uphold certain high-sounding principles. Among the strongest critics of Mr V.P. Singh were Mr Rajiv Gandhi, Mr Chandra Shekhar and Mr L.K. Advani. While the vast majority of MPs voted against the National Front ministry, the Leftists (CPM and CPI) voted for him. His claims and earnest advocacy of secularism and principles of the Constitution were described as "hollow" and "unconvincing".

Mr V.P. Singh claimed, while moving the motion, that what was at stake was not the fate of the Government but the future of secularism and other sacred principles enshrined in the Constitution. He made it known that he would continue to adhere to the principles he had stood for and to his stand on Ayodhya and related issues on which he had staked his Government's very existence. He claimed that he wanted to focus attention on four basic issues: whether the religious faith of anyone should be placed above the principles of the Constitution, whether religious polarisation should be allowed, whether religion and politics should be mixed and whether national unity and integration should be maintained.

Mr Rajiv Gandhi, in a bitter attack on Mr V.P. Singh, described the

11-month rule of the National Front as an unmitigated record of unprecedented disasters. Casteism had been raised to a level never before witnessed in free India. He went to the extent of charging the Prime Minister with "deviousness, dishonesty and political chicanery".

Mr L.K. Advani contended that he and his party (BJP) had been totally disenchanted with the performance of Mr V.P. Singh. Finance Minister Madhu Dandavate's contention was that the main issue was of secularism, the minorities and upto what extent their rights were to be protected in a pluralistic society.

Mr Chandra Shekhar argued that the V.P. Singh ministry had taken the country to the brink of disaster; he charged the Government with having resorted to populist measures like the decision to implement the Mandal Report and taken a confrontationist posture on the Ram Janambhoomi-Babri Masjid issue to broaden his support base.

New complication: On November 6, in a totally unexpected development (described as a "master card" played by Mr V.P. Singh), the Speaker of the Lok Sabha notified the Janata Dal dissidents that the 25 expelled members of the Dal would be treated as "unattached" members in the House. With this decision the strength of the Janata Dal in the House came down from 140 to 115 on the eve of the crucial vote of confidence in Mr V.P. Singh.

Under the Anti-Defection law the breakaway group can call itself a party only if it has at least one-third of the party's strength (that is 39 MPs or more). The unattached members will of course be free to vote as they like but they could be disqualified from House membership. The list includes Mr Chandra Shekhar, the four ministers who had resigned, Mr Har-mohan Dhawan and Mr Chand Ram.

Mr Chandra Shekhar announced that his group would be named Janata Dal (Socialist). His party had formally requested the Speaker to allot it a separate block of seats. The dissidents' list contained 58 names. He ruled out any compromise on prin-

ciples and programmes.

Split in Janata Dal: A tell-tale development took place on November 5 when 68 Janata Dal MPs (the dissident group) broke away from the party and elected Mr Chandra Shekhar as their leader. On that very day the Janata Dal Parliamentary Party meeting, summoned by Mr V.P. Singh and attended by 83 Lok Sabha MPs and 26 Rajya Sabha members, affirmed their faith in Mr V.P. Singh and authorised him to take such steps as he deemed necessary for dealing with the political crisis created by the split in the party and the election of another leader by the breakaway group.

The Congress (I) welcomed the development since it virtually meant achievement of Mr Rajiv Gandhi's declared objective (also shared by many others, including the BJP headed by Mr L.K. Advani) — ouster of Mr V.P. Singh. Mr Chandra Shekhar met Mr Rajiv Gandhi at the latter's residence on November 6 and was assured support of the Congress (I) — the largest single party in the Lok Sabha and entitled to form the Government. It is, however, disinclined to do so and instead it decided to support a government formed by anyone else other than Mr V.P. Singh.

The breakaway group's stand took Mr V.P. Singh by surprise; he expected that the dissidents would attend the J.D. Parliamentary Party meeting he had convened and bring up the issue of leadership there. The fact was that by collecting as many as 68 Janata Dal MPs on their side Mr Chandra Shekhar, along with the others, escaped the penal clause in the Anti-Defection Act under which if a faction comprises one-third of the party's total membership, it does not attract the disqualification from the legislature membership. The party position in the Lok Sabha before the split in the Janata Dal was Congress (I) 193, Janata Dal 141, BJP 87, CPI (M) 32, CPI 12, AIADMK 11. The other parties had only a few members each.

An interesting aspect of the political tussle was the game of expulsions. Mr V.P. Singh expelled the

prominent dissidents, including the six ministers who had resigned from the Council of Ministers. The rival Chandra Shekhar group leaders expelled Mr V.P. Singh and his close associates from the Janata Dal. The explosions were on the expected lines.

The Leftists, CPI (M) and the CPI declared their support to the main Janata Dal headed by Mr V.P. Singh.

On November 5 the BJP leaders stated that a mid-term election was the only durable solution of the crisis. The formation of an alternative government headed by Mr Chandra Shekhar and supported from outside (as the BJP was doing before it withdrew support on October 23 following the arrests of Mr L.K. Advani and other leaders who were on their way to Ayodhya), would, the BJP felt, offer only a provisional solution of the crisis. It would defer elections for a short period and would not resolve the political deadlock facing the country. If the party's views on the issue of a mid-term poll were not accepted and a new government took over, the BJP, now freed from the responsibility of supporting and defending a government whose record had been dismal. The BJP would then discharge its responsibilities as a vigorous and effective opposition party.

On November 4 President R. Venkataraman made it clear that he was against dissolution of the ninth Lok Sabha without exploring the possibilities of forming an alternative government if the V.P. Singh Government failed to win a vote of confidence on the fixed day — November 7. A delegation of dissident MPs, including Mr Asoke Sen, former Law Minister and a prominent Janata Dal dissident, met the President and urged him not to accept advice for dissolution of the House if Mr V.P. Singh gave such advice at any time since he had lost majority support. Elections would be the last resort. It needs to be noted that no M.P. is inclined to face another election so soon (the last poll was held late in November, 1989) because of the ex-

pense and the uncertainty.

Mr Devi Lal also strongly opposed a mid-term election at present. He said: "Any snap poll at this critical moment when the nation and society stand divided vertically and horizontally on the basis of religion, caste and class, will add to the already prevailing confusion."

Cong (I) Saves Gujarat Ministry

An event of much significance, and possibly serving as a pointer to future events, occurred in the Gujarat capital on November 1 when the Congress (I) backed the Janata Dal ministry, headed by Mr Chimanbhai Patel, which would otherwise have been defeated since the BJP had withdrawn support. As a result, Chief Minister Patel won the vote of confidence from the State Assembly with the full support of the Congress and Independents. He got 111 votes in his favour while 66 MLAs voted against the resolution.

The House has an effective strength of 180, with one seat vacant. The Janata Dal has 70 members, the Bharatiya Janata Party 67, the Congress (I) 32, and there are 12 Independents. Of the 70, one member of the Janata Dal is the Speaker and one member voted against the motion. All the Congress MLAs voted for the motion and also 11 of the 12 Independents.

Before the House met, Congress General Secretary H.K.L. Bhagat, individually met the Congress MLAs and senior leaders, including the party chief, former Chief Minister Hitendra Desai, former Pradesh Chief Prabod Rawal, and others.

There was a clear feeling in the State Congress that they did not want to have President's rule which would mean rule of bureaucrats — no substitute for the rule of elected members. However, it will not be a blind support and only issue-based support.

L.D. Leaders consulted: Mr Patel asserted in Delhi the next day that he had secured Congress support after consulting the Janata Dal

central leadership. He was reacting to the statement of the Janata Dal president, Mr S.R. Bommai, that the Gujarat Chief Minister had not consulted the party leadership while seeking the support of the Congress to prove his majority in the Assembly. The Chief Minister had earlier emphasised the need for a stable government in the State because of the communal tension.

B.J.P. shocked: The BJP expressed surprise at the Janata Dal accepting support from Congress(I) to survive the trial of strength in the Assembly. BJP General Secretary M.M. Joshi said that so far the Janata Dal was vehemently opposing the Congress (I). The way they had now accepted support from that party was surprising. "We shall not be surprised if a similar drama is played in Delhi too."

Arrest of Advani: Intense Violence

In a courageous, highly risky step, the Government arrested BJP President L.K. Advani at Samastipur (in Bihar) on October 23 under the National Security Act. He was detained at Masanjir inspection bungalow. Para-military forces are guarding the premises. Before leaving the Circuit House, Mr Advani told newsmen that his arrest would not stand in the way of the Ayodhya temple being built. "By arresting me the Prime Minister has merely hurt the sentiment of the Hindus." The Rath in which he had been riding for a long distance was confiscated by the Bihar Government.

The situation in Bihar and in many other northern States became tense following the arrest. Mr Advani contended on October 30 that his detention order was *malafide* and the charges "made out were utterly false". He contended that the decision to arrest him was prompted not by concern for maintenance of public order but by "sordid political considerations".

Mr Advani ruled out a "patch-up" with the V.P. Singh Government, saying it was a "liability". "We have some fundamental differences now

with this Government. Its manner of governance had made it clear that this government must go."

Mr Advani reiterated that the BJP was for "dissolution of the Lok Sabha and a mid-term poll and nothing else". He firmly believed that association with this Government had proved counter-productive for the BJP. The Prime Minister seemed to have taken us for granted and expected us to support every wrong he did.

The government had become a liability for the country at the moment. "Our withdrawal is related to the total failure of the Government on every front and not the Mandir issue alone", he said.

Karnataka Adopts 'Sons of Soil' policy

The "Sons of the Soil" theory, which was rightly rejected by the Union Government in relation to Assam a few years ago, has been revived in Karnataka. Apparently in an attempt to gain popularity, the Bangarappa ministry has decided to implement the recommendations of the Sarojini Mahishi panel on reservation of jobs for "sons of the soil" in both State and Central public sector undertakings.

This major policy decision was announced on the eve of the 34th birth anniversary of Karnataka. Describing the announcement as a "rajyotsava gift" to the Kannadigas, the Chief Minister said that 100 per cent of the posts in all State undertakings in Karnataka in the A, B, C and D categories would henceforth be reserved for Kannadigas. However, the reservations of jobs in the Central Government undertakings in the State will be 65 per cent in group A, 80 per cent in group B, and 100 per cent in groups C and D.

Mr Bangarappa also announced a series of wide-ranging decisions aimed at winning over the Kannadiga people and substantial concessions for farmers from power tariff to pumpsets. The entire package is aimed at rectifying the injustice done to the Kannadigas and ensuring more jobs for them. He was not able to explain how the State Government

proposed to implement the job reservation policy in the Central undertakings in Karnataka.

India and USSR no Longer "Special Friends"?

More and more political and military analysts have in recent weeks expressed the view that the special consideration which Moscow has been showing to India for many years would no longer be available because of the dramatic changes in the international situation—notably the end of the Cold War, the increasing cordiality with the US, including full support on the issue of Iraq's aggression against Kuwait and the unannounced but nevertheless certain decrease in interest in the Third World of which it was, until recently, a vocal champion. When the Super Powers settle their main differences and decide on a new phase of relationship, the Third World countries suffer because of the resultant neglect, though no official policy pronouncement is made in that regard.

The Indo-Soviet Treaty of Friendship, 1971, still stands and will be formally renewed shortly, but its impact will certainly be less significant. No longer is there earnest and really sincere talk of "eternal friendship". The "special relationship" between India and the Soviet Union suited both parties. Moscow felt proud that India, leader of the Third World for all practical purposes, was its close and dependable ally. India, on its part, realised that in times of trouble it could rely on the Soviet Union for assistance.

India needed weapons and also active industrial collaboration; these the Soviet Union gave. It would be untrue to say that the Soviet Union has abandoned India and the Third World but the difference in priorities is all too evident. There is also the economic aspect which has made much difference. The Soviet Union has lately been in financial trouble; it is neck deep in debt and its internal economy is almost in ruins. So it has found it necessary to curtail its foreign commitments.

Notes on Current International Affairs

- ★ *NEW MOVE ON GULF CRISIS*
- ★ *MOSCOW SEEKS PAK FRIENDSHIP*
- ★ *WARSAW PACT TO BE ENDED*
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New Move on Gulf Crisis

While Iraq has been preparing itself for a possible US attack and has recalled retired defence officers, especially those who were experts in chemical and biological weapons, the US has formed a joint command of its own and the Saudi forces in case of an armed conflict. The agreement for a joint command was reached after talks between US Secretary of State James Baker and Saudi King Fahd on November 6. Under the agreement, any military action inside the kingdom for its defence would come under a joint Saudi-American command while an attack on Iraqi positions in Kuwait would be carried out by US troops under their own commanders after advance approval of the US and Saudi governments. Moreover, under the Fahd-Baker accord, the Saudis will have a veto on war with Iraq. The US cannot strike into Kuwait from Saudi Arabia soil without the concurrence of the King.

Another development is that Saudi Arabia and Syria, and possibly Egypt also, may not be willing to fight another Arab country. So the war against Iraq may have to be fought by the West and the Kuwaitis. Meanwhile, Mr Baker visited several West Asian countries. He had long talks with Egypt's President Hosni Mubarak on the Gulf crisis. He also met the Chinese Foreign Minister in Cairo. China is among the nations which has condemned Iraqi aggression. British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher told King Hussein of Jordan on November 6 that military action must be one option to resolve the Gulf crisis. The King repeated his plea for a peaceful solution through a dialogue.

Bush-Saddam Threats: The latest development in the continuing Gulf crisis is the holding out of threats by US President Bush and counter-threats by Mr Saddam Hussein. President Bush has threatened war crimes trials for the Iraqi President and his military officers. Calling Mr Hussein "Hitler revisited", Mr Bush at a political rally said: "Remember, when Hitler's war ended, there were the Nuremberg tri-

als". The Justice Department is already building up a case file and there were similar efforts at the United Nations. Mr Saddam Hussein, for his part, has already announced his intention to put Mr Bush on trial in Baghdad for sending troops to Saudi Arabia.

Top U.S. military commanders in the Pentagon and in Saudi Arabia were reportedly considering a nuclear option for war with Iraq—not a nuclear bomb to kill people but a nuclear bomb to knock out all Iraqi electronic equipment. The Iraqi Information Minister has said Kuwait is a part of Iraqi territory and Iraq does not intend to withdraw from it, regardless of the pressures put on it.

France will reinforce its Gulf troops with artillery and other equipment, but still feels a UN-sponsored peace conference is the best way to solve West Asia problems.

Meanwhile P.L.O. leader Yasser Arafat has expressed the view that peace between Iran and Iraq, coupled with the Intifada, would help in keeping the Arab region out of Western control. "We had proposed a Palestinian peace initiative for the current Persian Gulf crisis which had received the backing of several Arab States."

France opposed to war: France will not be a party to a war in the Gulf and will veto any U.N. Security Council resolution approving the use of force to end the Gulf crisis, according to the French Prime Minister, Mr Michel Rocard. The role of the French troops sent to join the international force is "limited to enforcing the international sanctions against Iraq".

France, which had signalled an independent approach to the Gulf crisis in the initial days after Iraq invaded Kuwait on August 2, reacted dramatically to reports of an Iraqi intrusion into the French Embassy in Kuwait and sent 4,000 troops and armour to Saudi Arabia to join the multinational force.

The commander of Egyptian forces in the Gulf has stated that the forces had been sent to the Gulf to

defend regional States and they would not join any attack on Iraq. "Our main task is to reinforce Saudi defence capabilities and protect its borders against any aggression", Major-Gen Bilal told the Sharjah-based Al-Khaleej newspaper.

Moscow Seeks Pak Friendship

Following the virtual end of the Afghanistan crisis and the Super Powers' accord by which they decided not to supply arms to either party and to treat the controversial issues as closed, the Soviet Union has softened its policy towards Pakistan. Another reason is the US decision to opt out of the Afghans' civil war. Though the Najibullah regime in Kabul still enjoys the backing of the Russians, there is little activity that might be described as hostile towards the rebels. A U.S. report on the "Soviet Military Power" makes interesting disclosures. The Soviet policy in West Asia and South Asia seeks to promote certain objectives without harming US interests and thwarting the latter's moves.

The Soviet policy towards the Third World is stated to be "in a State of transition". The USSR is now attempting to strengthen and promote relations with the emerging powers and to identify potential areas of cooperation with the USA.

However, not all movements that were rather hostile to the US have been dropped. Through diplomatic moves, arms aid and selective support to certain movements, the Soviet Union is seeking to consolidate its position in certain areas. There have lately been more positive gestures by Moscow towards other Muslim countries also — Egypt and Saudi Israel, for instance. The Soviet Union has also established closer ties with Israel; it has joined the US in making a call for peace in Lebanon. Syria and Libya, which are hostile to the US, are now receiving less Soviet attention.

WARSAW Pact to be ended

In view of the break-up of the vast Soviet empire and the adoption of

conflicting ideologies by the former constituents of the East Bloc, there is a major move to disband the WARSAW Pact, now regarded as irrelevant. The consensus is growing among the six members of the pact that the military alliance should be ended as soon as possible. At a press conference after the signature of the agreement relating to cuts in conventional forces in Europe, Foreign Ministers of Hungary, Poland and Rumania stated that there was no reason to continue the pact.

The Polish Foreign Secretary even insisted that the structure of the WARSAW pact should disappear by the end of next year or the beginning of 1992. It was felt that the pact had lost its ideological basis. Rumania had stopped taking part in WARSAW pact activities in 1988. Even the Soviet spokesman has now agreed that the military structure of the pact should be abolished, leaving in place a "consultative political committee". Even this committee is unlikely to function actively because of the split in the Communist bloc.

370 million poor by 2000 AD

The World Bank has warned that India's battle against poverty would slip badly if investment in the current decade remained "squeezed" by low domestic savings rate and external borrowing and has stressed the need for sustained growth and further internal policy reforms.

The bank's World Development Report for 1990 says in such a scenario India's growth is unlikely to exceed two per cent per capita annually over the decade. Such a slip would imply a poverty count of 370 million people by 2000 AD as against 255 million if the economic growth average is maintained at five per cent and the per capita gross domestic product at three per cent.

The bank's yardstick for poverty measurement is a per capita consumption of \$ 370 (approximate Rs 6,000). The report expects the number of poor to fall "dramatically" in South Asia, especially India. But it adds a rider: much of the potential

gains in India would be eroded without sustained growth and internal policy reforms.

The report reiterates the bank's oft-repeated plea for fiscal reforms in India to curb the growing government deficits, contain foreign and domestic debt and ensure adequate savings to support domestic investment. Further trade liberalisation would encourage exports and allow efficient, labour-intensive import substitution.

China would have drastically reduced its poor by 2000 A.D. The only region where the number of poor is expected to increase will be sub-Saharan Africa, through an addition of 85 million. The report underscores that no task should command a higher priority for the world's policy makers than that of reducing global poverty.

The report suggests a two-fold strategy: pursuit of a pattern of growth that ensures productive use of the poor's most abundant asset — labour, and second, widespread provision to the poor of basic social services, especially primary education, health care and family planning. The first component provides opportunities, the second increases the capacity of the poor to take advantage of these opportunities. The new developments in Europe would make possible a cut in military spending and increase in international assistance.

The World Bank President, Mr Barber Conable, cautioned that the Gulf crisis posed an obvious threat to world peace and unless quickly resolved, would have a serious effect on the world's poor and developing countries. The burden would be especially heavy for countries least able to meet increased external payments. Despite impressive advances, poverty had proved a stubborn foe. Over the next 10 years the population of the developing world was likely to increase by at least 850 million people, many of whom will be born into absolute poverty. It has been pointed out that if members cut their military outlays by only 10 per cent, they could double their development aid. Moreover, the developing countries

spent \$ 200 billion a year on weapons; many spend more on arms than on health and education combined.

Nawaz Sharif—New Pak P.M.

The Pakistan National Assembly elected Mr Nawaz Sharif, former Punjab Chief Minister as the Prime Minister by a huge majority of 114, defeating the Democratic Alliance nominee. Mr Sharif is the first politician from Punjab to become Pakistan's Prime Minister in the last two decades. He secured a majority vote of confidence in the National Assembly. The move by the opposition to have the election made by secret ballot failed.

Since Mr Nawaz Sharif commands a comfortable majority, the new Government in Islamabad is likely to be stable, the opposition groups being too small to challenge the IJI supremacy. While congratulating the new P.M., Ms Benazir Bhutto made a bitter attack on the President who had dismissed her about three months earlier and on the Caretaker Government. She contended that the due process of law had been flouted.

Pak Polls: October 24 was a historic day for Pakistan; it marked the end of Ms Benazir Bhutto's short rule and the end of the spell of democracy in that country, which was replaced by fundamentalism in the shape of the IJI (Islami Jamhoori Ittehad). The IJI won 105 of the 206 Muslim seats for which the elections were held, pushing back Ms Benazir's PPP to the position of a poor second with a mere 45 seats in the 217-member Pakistan National Assembly. She headed the People's Democratic Alliance of which the PPP was the main constituent. The IJI swept crucial Punjab province, winning 91 of the 115 seats contested.

Thus routed beyond expectations, Benazir alleged widespread rigging. The IJI secured a majority, which increased to 211, when some independents joined the victorious band-wagon. Earlier there was a contest between Mr Sharif and the caretaker Prime Minister, Mr Ghulam Mustafa Jatoi, but Mr Sharif

emerged as the leader and was formally elected by the National Assembly on November 4. The results of elections to the 10 seats for minorities will be declared later but these will not make any difference.

The elections to Pakistan's Provincial Assemblies, held on October 27, confirmed the major setback to Benazir Bhutto's party. The PPP had a strength of 93 in the former National Assembly and also a massive majority in Sind, but even her own province let her down. The people's verdict was clearly against her. Muslim fundamentalist won hands down. So Pakistan is back to control of Zia elements.

The PDA's tally in the provinces was also poor: Punjab 14, Sind 24, NWFP 5, Baluchistan 2. The Mahajir Qaumi Movement secured 15 seats, the Awami National Party won 6 seats, the Jammat Ulema-i-Islam 6, Jammat Ulema-i-Pakistan 3, and Jamhoori Watan Party 2.

The major upsets were: Benazir in Peshawar (she retained one of her family seats in Larkana (Sind), as did her mother, Mrs Nusrat Bhutto, Khan Abdul Wali Khan also in Peshawar, Nawabzada Nasrullah Khan (IJI leader), Maulana Fazalur Rahman (IJI General Secretary), Pir Mardan Ali Shah of Pagaro. Benazir's husband Asif Ali Zardari won his Laysi (Karachi) seat but was defeated in Nawabshah by interim Prime Minister Jatoi's son. Gen Zia's son Ejaz-ul-Haq won a Rawalpindi seat—as well as the Toba Tek Singh seat.

Bhutto Vs. Zia: The main contest in the polls, in effect, was between two legacies—those of Z.A. Bhutto and of Gen Zia-ul-Haq. The Bhutto legacy appears to have been discarded by the people in favour of the Mullah-dominated IJI. In other words, the illegal dismissal of the Benazir Bhutto Government by President Ishaq Khan, with the tacit support of the powerful and highly politicised army, has now been given democratic legitimacy.

She herself is largely responsible for the near-total rout of her father's party. She lacked the political

capacity to keep the army establishment in good humour. She failed to initiate measures to instil a sense of economic and social security among the people. Her poor performance, plus her inability to keep the USA on her side, were other causes.

Ms Bhutto will lead a weak opposition. In the geo-political context, with bitterly anti-Indian Nawaz Sharif as P.M., the Punjab and Kashmir borders may come alive as never before. Nawaz Sharif is unlikely to commit the folly of taking his anti-India stand to the point of no return. The army set-up will not allow him the liberty to do so. Nevertheless, a perpetually "hot" border can make India's task of restoring internal peace and normalcy in Punjab and the Kashmir Valley even more difficult. The elections were mostly free from violence, though there were reports of three persons killed in the poll for Sind Provincial Assembly.

Complaints of Rigging: Benazir has alleged widespread rigging. The Election Commission has rebuffed her allegations. An international team of 18, mostly U.S. and Canadian observers, expressed the view that the polls were fair and free. A French team of observers stated that there had been rigging at some centres; there had been sophisticated fraud in ensuring IJI's resounding victory. Additional votes were stuffed in ballot-boxes during their transit.

The 16-member non-governmental SAARC observer mission has alleged "serious improprieties and violent incidents" in some polling stations it visited during the polling.

The mission was of the view that the partisan use of the electronic media by the Caretaker Government was not conducive to fair elections. The actual polling process appeared to be free and orderly in a majority of the polling stations visited by the mission. This non-governmental observer mission comprised jurists, academicians, journalists and diplomats drawn from India, Nepal, Bangladesh and Sri Lanka.

The main factors behind Benazir's defeat were: poor performance, large-scale corruption (by her

family and associates), softness in foreign policy (from Pakistan's view), especially with regard to the USA and India, and the inability to manage the endless internal strife within her country.

Tough Tasks for Sharif

Mr Nawaz Sharif has a tough agenda on his hands and superficial changes may not help. At the top of the agenda are the Gulf crisis and its spin-off, falling foreign exchange remittances from Pakistanis and the massive increase in oil prices.

The foreign exchange crisis aggravated by the suspension of American military and economic aid will also have to be tackled head on. Now that the U.S. Government has expressed satisfaction with the election process, its aid may soon start flowing in the pipeline despite Washington's objections about Pakistan's nuclear development programme. The country has always enjoyed a most favoured relationship with the US in spite of reports that it was going ahead with producing the nuclear bomb. Sahibzada Yakub Khan, Foreign Minister, knows how to tackle the Americans.

The Islami Jamhoori Ittihad's (IJI) manifesto claims that Pakistan will follow a policy of non-alignment and "ensure cooperation with countries of the Third World", but it also states that it will extend "free support" to the achievement of self-determination for Kashmir and "full support" for the Afghan *jihad*.

The belief in Islamabad is that the IJI Government will adopt a confrontationalist policy against India.

Govt May last full term: The general opinion in Pakistan, and also in India and other countries, is that the Islamic Democratic Alliance Government in Pakistan will remain stable and complete its full term as it will have the blessings of the Army and the President.

"It is pretty clear that Pakistan will now have a government by the military with a civilian facade", the former Director of the Institute for Defence Studies and Analyses, (IDSA). Mr K. Subrahmanyam, feels.

The election results are precisely what the Army and the President sought. "The military leadership, the Presidency and the new leadership seem to be on the same wavelength, which will ensure a stable political scenario."

This has been further facilitated by the drastic decimation of the former ruling party, the Pakistan People's Party (PPP) notably in Punjab. Further, the IDA has made inroads into Sind as well as the NWFP through its understanding with the Mohajir Qaumi Movement (MQM) and the Awami National Party (ANP) respectively.

As far as India is concerned, Pakistani politicians have "a bipartisan approach based on anti-Indian feelings, which give identity to Pakistan". "If an apparently friendly regime of Benazir Bhutto, in its early months, could later transform itself into strident anti-Indianism, no one can expect anything better from an IJI government. The IJI itself had unleashed a propaganda against the PPP government for following a policy of appeasement towards India."

India's borders with Pakistan mainly in Kashmir, are likely to be more tense and Islamabad might extend more active assistance to the Kashmiri militants, experts fear.

Gorbachov Faces New Crisis

Soviet President Gorbachov is once again facing serious challenges, the grave ethnic strife and the forces of nationalism compounding the economic difficulties. In fact, several politicians have predicted the disintegration of the Soviet Union and empire. The country is gripped by the "fever of nationalistic aspirations for sovereignty". At first republics, later autonomous regions, and more recently, tiny ethnic groups with their own territorial base have been declaring their sovereignty and threatening to withdraw from the Soviet Union. These demands which basically, fit into the concept of a law-based State, spark off violence, particularly in Trans-caucasia and Central Asia. In

an effort to build up political muscle by easily exploiting nationalistic sentiments, local leaders engage in strong anti-Russian propaganda and quarrel with other regional nationalities; witness the smouldering conflict between the Azerbaijanis and the Armenians, threatening to escalate into a full-scale war.

Mr Gorbachov recently warned nationalist leaders of the danger of a Lebanon-like situation developing in the country. As for the causes behind the nationalistic erosion of the Soviet Union, some analysts believe that the "monolithic unity" has been underpinned by fear.

After decades of enforced friendship between peoples, the pent-up nationalist feelings are being violently released. Nationalistic demands go far beyond what is generally accepted in world practice. At a time when the rest of the world, especially Western Europe, sees integration processes and the creation of pre-requisites for a single economic system and a single currency, the Soviet Union is going through an orgy of separatism.

Authorities on ethnic relations and politicians take the view that the transition to a market based economy and a convertible rouble could stop the process of fragmentation. There is a growing feeling that the demise of the Soviet Union as a single State might precipitate a series of local wars. Rational people believe Mr Gorbachov's formula of "a strong centre and strong republics" may provide a reasonable basis for compromise.

Flood of Infiltration from Bangladesh

Developments in India and their repercussions in Bangladesh, including the backlash of Ayodhya Temple-Babri Masjid conflicts, have caused infiltration of thousands of Bangladeshis into this country, especially into tiny Tripura. Not surprisingly, all political parties in India have expressed concern over the unabated infiltration of foreign nationals who have furtively crossed the 880-km long international Bangla-

desh border. The opposition CPM has criticised the Congress-led State Government for not taking anti-infiltration measures and demanded immediate sealing of the border along Bangladesh. The BJP has held both the ruling and the opposition parties responsible for encouraging infiltration for their electoral gains. The influx of Bangladeshi nationals is creating socio-economic problems in the areas under the Autonomous District Council (considered to be the constitutional safeguard of the tribals in the State).

Introduction of innerline permit the CPM suggested could check infiltration, but the plan remains unimplemented. Strict adherence to the Indira-Mujib pact for pushing back of infiltrators who entered the Tripura State after 1971, immediate introduction of identity cards for all citizens and strict vigilance on panchayat registers to prevent inclusion of infiltrators' names, were measures suggested by one leader to tackle the problem.

The Indian People's Front demanded that the Central government seriously take up the matter with Bangladesh and adopt all anti-infiltration measures.

A close study of the pattern of population growth from 1971 showed that at least four lakh Bangladeshi nationals had entered this tiny State, exerting tremendous pressure on the fragile economy. Infiltrators apart, there are about 70,000 Chakma refugees from the Chittagong hill tract of Bangladesh in six camps in south Tripura.

Yugoslavia Facing Break-up

Internal strife, riots, selfishness among the politicians and ethnic tussles have brought chaos to Yugoslavia. In fact, many people fear that Marshal Tito's once proud nation, a founding member of the non-aligned movement and considered the only liberal East European State throughout the Cold War period, is on the verge of breaking up. Yugoslavia seems to have fallen by the wayside through the rush of democratic revolutions that have

overtaken its neighbours. It is plummeting into a self-destructive nationalist spiral.

Its internal fissures are so great that Yugoslavia has become an inward looking, brooding nation torn as-under by the hatred generated by nationalist fervour. Yugoslavia is paying a heavy price for its internal strife. A year ago Hungary became the first East European nation to enter the Council of Europe. Next year Czechoslovakia, Hungary and Poland hope to become associate members of the European community but Yugoslavia, which invented the famous middle way between Soviet socialism and Western liberalism, seems to have been forgotten in the great reconciliation now taking place between the erstwhile hostile blocs.

The press here has been evoking the spectre of an imminent civil war, and federal Yugoslavia with its six republics perhaps has little chance of surviving. Any one going to Belgrade today is stunned by the degree of ethnic hatred and the rancour over historical detail which has seeped into Yugoslav society. Former royals, the Kardjorjevics, are making a thunderous comeback.

In July the Slovenes declare themselves a sovereign State, while the large Albanian community in the autonomous Serbian province of Kosovo proclaims its independence from Serbia. In August, Serbes from Croatia (12 per cent of the population) vote in a referendum for autonomy. In September the parliament of Kosovo province, part of the Serbian republic, issues a declaration of independence as Yugoslavia's seventh republic and adopts its own Constitution. Riots may follow.

Nepal's New Constitution

After prolonged reluctance and much deliberation, King Birendra of Nepal has yielded to the pressure of the Council of Ministers and to public opinion in respect of several clauses of the country's new Constitution which was published in the second week of November. The special powers he was eager to retain

as prerogatives of the monarch have been greatly whittled down.

"All clauses have been finalised with the King and we are satisfied", said the Prime Minister of Nepal, Mr Krishna Prasad Bhattarai. The King has given up his insistence that sovereignty should vest in the Crown and the people. "Sovereignty will be vested in the people and the King will be the symbol of national unity. The King will not sit in parliament but he will address parliament, which will function in his name."

There is a reference in the preamble to the historic struggle of the people. As a result of the historic struggle, the King decided to abolish the panchayat constitution and constituted a commission to make a new constitution.

The King shall have his privileges. He has the right of information and the duty to encourage people in times of crisis. His emergency powers will be defined by the Council of Ministers. It is for the council to decide that an emergency exists. An emergency provides for the King to take over but he cannot alter the basic features of the constitution or suspend fundamental rights during emergency.

During an emergency the King shall have powers to suspend certain political activities for a specific period "on the advice and consent of the Council of Ministers". Another advance is in the composition of the National Security Council, which will come under civilian control. The prime minister, defence minister and the commander in chief of the army will be members of the NSC and the King will be the supreme commander.

Veteran Congress leader said: "The period of dictatorship is gone. There is so much consciousness today that people cannot be deprived of democratic rights." The King is a formidable force even now. Reactionary forces supported by the (former) panchas, feudals and supporters of the King are still powerful. "But the mood of the people is too militant and uncompromising for anyone to attempt mischief."

ECONOMIC SCENE

EXPORT POLICY FAILURES

Q. Assess the impact of the Government of India's export policy since the early eighties, i.e., during the past decade. Have its aims been achieved?

Ans. Recent studies have brought out certain dismal aspects of the Government of India's export policy. Every Finance and Commerce Minister stresses the importance of increasing exports so as to reduce the gap in the balance of payments (B.O.P). Awards have been given for good performances on the export front; in fact, concessions, subsidies and incentives are given from time to time to exporters. But has the national income been adequately augmented? Has the policy achieved the other aim of reducing the drain on the exchequer?

It is now planned to increase the share of exports in the Gross Domestic Product from 7 per cent at present to 10 per cent in a period of two to three years. The impact of the export drive is expected by the Government to be distinctly positive. But the proposed increase in exports should be achieved by optimal utilisation of natural resources, labour and production capacities in the country.

After satisfying pressing current consumption needs and maximising development inputs from indigenous sources, this would help to generate surpluses for exports on the basis of competitive advantage. If, however, exports are at the cost of current consumption needs of the people of India and heavily subsidised in a variety of ways, the impact on the generation and distribution of the national income would be adverse.

It has been found that the much-advertised export drive is tending to be a highly profitable racket into

which segments of Indian business have been drawn. In this process the interests of the mass of the people and the development aims are suffering. The main reason is that the export drive is based on wrong assumptions.

The latest example of such miscalculation is the announcement made on October 14 according to which the Government expects to mop up Rs 2000-2500 crore through exports of large quantities of food-grains. World commodity prices have dipped low and the assumptions are erroneous.

The import intensity of exports and of the growth process as a whole has grown enormously as a result of the misplaced emphasis on creating a special export sector in the economy. This accounts for our higher foreign indebtedness. Subsidised exports have failed to bring under control the increasing current accounts deficit and ease the balance of payments position. But big business has taken advantage of this policy to enhance their profits at the expense of not only rival business interests but also the interests of the people at large. Because of the acute balance of payments strains, the position is becoming unfair and lopsided. If these trends in exports persist, investments in enterprises engaged in the production of goods and services for meeting the needs of the people with low purchasing power will become attractive.

CONSUMER PROTECTION

Q. Several measures have been adopted to protect the interests of the consumer in India. What is the net impact of these laws, programmes and directives?

Ans. The consumer in India, far from being King (as is the case in the

U.S.A. and Britain) is generally at the mercy of the manufacturer of goods, the wholesaler and the retailer, all of whom exploit him. In fact, the actual benefits that have accrued to him through the various legislations passed by Parliament to protect his interests are nothing to boast of.

The six rights of the consumer as mentioned in U.S. laws were recognised in India, especially of the Consumer Protection Act of 1986. The Act, while providing for a system to redress consumer grievances through exclusive courts, specified the following rights: safety, information, choice, representation, redressal and consumer education. However, these rights are not enforceable or justiciable in any manner whatsoever. These rights are expected to be protected and promoted by the Central Consumer Protection Council set up by the Government of India. The Council is required to meet at least three times a year. Consumer protection councils are required to be set up at the levels of the State and Union Territories.

The Central Council met seven times during its tenure of three years which ended on May 30, 1990. Most of these meetings were short. Efforts were often made to hurry up the proceedings. There was hardly any time for the consumer activist members of the Council to put forward their case.

In most States the progress has been unsatisfactory. Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh Consumer Councils have held only one meeting since the passage of the Act. The Councils were headed by the respective Chief Minister (instead of the State Food Minister) who was much too busy to attend such meetings. The meetings held were a mere formality. The Karnataka Council was set up

during the interlude of the Governor's rule following a High Court ruling. But it has never met and the new popular Government is considering its reconstitution. The West Bengal Council was paralysed after July, 1988. The Rajasthan and the Bihar Councils met only thrice but as a ritual.

Bihar was the first State in the country to set up a district forum and a State commission. A conscientious official in Rajasthan formed Councils in all its 27 districts; these are functioning well with many grass-roots issues having drawn attention.

Andhra Pradesh is probably the best performer in this arena. Like Rajasthan, it too has set up district-level Councils, besides being the only State with a complete network of district bodies. It is understood that the Centre is considering the demand that consumer rights must be made justiciable. If that is done, it will usher in a new era for the long-harassed consumer.

DRIVE TO CHECK TAX EVASION

Q. The Union Government's proposal to award deterrent punishment to tax evaders has not made headway. What are the reasons for this default?

Ans. Some time ago the Union Government, in a circular to the State administrations, urged them to set up special courts to award deterrent punishment to tax evaders, but the States have been very slow in implementing the suggestion. Only 11 States have formed courts for this purpose, and even these courts have not functioned effectively. Nor have the High Courts nominated competent judicial officers to these courts to give them an opportunity to specialise in the complex tax laws.

There are adequate penal provisions in our fiscal laws, but the desired deterrence could not be achieved in view of the enormous delays in disposing of cases against economic offenders. It is unlikely that these cases would get the desired at-

tention unless special courts are set up for the purpose. Economic laws are complex and require specialised knowledge. The need of the hour is to curb tax evasion and improve the administration in the context of the Government efforts to tune up resource mobilisation.

Combating tax evasion is of course a continuous process. A recent study entitled "Aspects of Black Economy" disclosed several aspects of this problem. Occasional Amnesty schemes give opportunities for disclosure of undeclared income. Intensive scrutiny of some income tax returns, searches and seizures have yielded good results. In one year the seized assets were valued at over Rs 43 crore. The Smugglers and Foreign Exchange Manipulators (Forfeiture of Property) Act was designed to check the menace of smuggling and foreign exchange manipulation which evades the laws. But financial experts believe that the quantum of black money and of the amount of taxes, direct and indirect, including excise duties evaded, is now higher despite the measures taken to counter the menace.

HOUSING POLICY

Q. The Union Government's draft national housing policy has been broadly endorsed by State Ministers in charge of Housing and Urban Development. What are the recommendations of the recent conference in this regard?

Ans. The conference of State Ministers in charge of Housing, Urban Development and Local Government, held on October 10 this year, broadly endorsed the draft national housing policy. But it recommended formulation of guidelines for promotion of investment in new rental housing and conservation of housing stock.

A 12-point resolution pertaining to various suggestions concerning the housing policy were passed. The conference suggested that rental housing should be looked into on a priority

basis, especially since a large number of people still rely on such housing in urban areas. Guidelines for encouraging investment in such housing and minimising the negative impact of rent control laws are needed. The special problems of different States, especially in the North-East hilly areas, Sikkim and the island groups, should be taken into account when laying down housing norms, technology options and infrastructure requirements. The need for augmenting the supply of serviced land in urban areas was also emphasised.

The comprehensive resolution stressed the need for devising procedures for speedy land acquisition on payment of adequate compensation. It recommended the enactment of a special law for acquisition of land for housing. A vacant land cess should be imposed in order to curb speculation and to bring more land into the market. There was also general agreement that the Urban Land Ceiling Act needed to be amended as it had failed to achieve the important aim.

Government agencies confine their housing activity to the poorest sections, except in areas where other agencies are non-existent. Private developers should be encouraged but laws should be enacted for their licensing and regulation. The State should facilitate housing activity of individuals and cooperatives by increased access to land, infrastructure, materials and finance.

But there are several imponderables: one, the heavy backlog in provision of housing for the masses; two, the unchecked rise in the prices of building material with the consequent—and substantial—increase in the cost of construction; three, the inadequate availability of finances; and four the increasing population. So the U.N. assessment of 8-10 dwelling units per thousand population as the annual construction rate in the next three decades, is unlikely to be achieved. The housing inadequacy in the country was estimated at over 250 lakh units (in urban and rural areas).

Reservations: Bane or Boon?

Ever since the partial acceptance of 'Mandal Commission Report' by the Central government, the entire issue of reservations has come under close scrutiny of those who have remained reticent on this sensitive subject all these years for reasons best known to them. The vociferous voices for and against the 'policy of reservation' are being raised now by different sections of Indian society, for they fear class-war, caste-war and civil war if their respective viewpoints and stands are not respected and accepted *in toto*. In fact the nagging question of 'reservations' has opened a Pandora's box and like a double-edged razor and tight-rope walking, this is going to occupy the centre-stage position in the Indian polity for days, weeks and months to come.

Of late opinions on the subject have been expressed with 'no-holds barred' and facts and figures thrown like arrows into the arena of high tempers and highly explosive acts of self-sacrifice in such a manner that truth, impartiality and non-partisanship have fallen on the way side to be kicked and knocked around. Vested interests of all hues have come under a cloud and the deteriorating situation has brought the advocates as well as critics of 'reservation' on a collision course, the consequences and fall-out of which can cause doom and destruction of our still fragile social as well as political fabric. That the whole exercise of discussion and deliberation has been vitiated by charges and counter-charges, is beyond any doubt the crux of the problem and a matter of serious concern. A human problem with all round ramifications and repercussions has been allowed to become a handy tool in the hands of those who are out to deviate, distort and daze the focus

from the real issue to trivialities and petty-politics.

In a country of our dimensions and diversities, some aberrations are bound to grow like weeds whenever some revolutionary reform is brought about. That is why the Constitution was adopted on the basis of an egalitarian, secular and casteless society. It took into account the injustice done to the scheduled castes and scheduled tribes by the social order for centuries in practice and in perpetuation. A deliberate step was, therefore, taken to provide certain safeguards for them. These safeguards were incorporated, ensured and extended in the form of reservations in jobs and legislatures, both in letter and spirit of the Constitution. It is a different matter that these benefits and reservations have not percolated down to the lowest and the poorest levels for which they were meant and visualised by the founding fathers of Indian Constitution.

Thus these special privileges have proved a boon for some and a bane for others—the latter grudge and grumble that they have been made to suffer and sacrifice for the past sins in the commission of which they had no hand. The fact that social justice for all the down-trodden and the under-privileged cannot be secured by reservations only is evident from the example of the scheduled castes and scheduled tribes.

The latest report of the Commission for scheduled castes and tribes is an eye opener. It says: "For millions of weaker sections owning small land holdings, payment of statutorily-fixed minimum wage or escape from atrocities suffered for generations, remains a distant dream. While on

the one hand the caste-based inequity is being accentuated, on the other hand tribal regions all over the country are simmering with discontent....Although the practice of untouchability has declined in urban areas and almost disappeared in metropolitan cities, there are extensive regions and innumerable pockets where it continues unchecked, notwithstanding the sanctions against it...." Surveying the progress made by the weaker sections since Independence, the Commissioner further says: "Undoubtedly some progress has been made but achievements do not measure upto the great expectations of the founding fathers of the Constitution."

Those academics and other social thinkers who would like the policy of 'reservation' to be re-viewed and re-evaluated in the light of last forty years' experience, fear that any hasty extension of percentage of reservation for other categories for entry into professional and technical colleges and institutions of higher learning would devalue merit and adversely affect academic as well as professional efficiency and expertise. This would also result in avoidable frustration among the budding youth who, for no fault of theirs, would be required to sacrifice their merit because certain other classes/castes of less meritorious and fortunate students have to be compensated for their poor performance due to factors beyond their control and capacity. Vested interests, whether political, bureaucratic or social, may get a new lease of life and impetus to promote their self-interest but the cost for the country would be too heavy to pay in future.

Undoubtedly the policy of reservation has helped some individuals

and social groups to better their lot but for the majority the fruits of 'special treatment' remain a mirage and a myth. This is so because the 'boon' of reservation has been cornered by more crafty and canny among the less privileged and once they have tasted 'the nectar of power and pelf', they are out to frustrate and fail any purposeful appraisal of the whole gamut of reservation policy. We have reached such a pass of our national life that a programme/policy conceived and then carried out with the most pious and pure intentions, gets turned and twisted at the hands of the unscrupulous and the unctuous. On the chess-board of politics, every move is held out as justifiable and judicious.

The trouble with the present state of affairs, charge the advocates of 'reservation and its extension to other categories', is that the rules of the game have been laid down by the privileged classes and any deviation from them is dubbed as unfair and arbitrary. Their argument is that thousands of students without any merit in the conventional sense, succeed in getting admission to technical and professional colleges by paying heavy capitation fees. This is also another form of reservation for the moneyed people. This is cited as a case of reservation by family influence and better social background.

If the problem is viewed objectively, one would come to the inevitable conclusion that an economic problem of 'upliftment and amelioration' of a vast population steeped in social, economic and educational backwardness since ages has deliberately been soiled and stained in uncalled-for puerile polemics and futile fretting and fuming simply to score points and for settling narrow class/caste interests. In more anguish than anger one finds the leadership of all colours and combinations lost in the quagmire of petty politics where every move of the opponent looks like 'a red rag to a bull'. Without losing one's head in the 'heat

and dust' raised by the latest move of government to reserve 27% Central government jobs for OBCs, the even-headed and non-partisans should impress upon the powers-that-be that one of the courses still open to help the backwards is that the State should provide special educational facilities for their children, give them free mid-day meals and books, open hostels, arrange intensive coaching classes to prepare candidates for competitive examinations and so on.

Real social justice can thus be ensured by vigorous economic programme for all the backward classes with the same amount of courage, conviction and commitment with which the country had fought against the evil of foreign rule. Falling into the trap of convenience, compromise and even collusion for the sake of power and its use for self-aggrandisement will lead to further tensions and turmoil. There are no short-cuts to social justice and it cannot be secured by reservations and more reservations only as the past experience has shown even in the case of S.C and S.T where the benefits have not reached down to the bulk of the members of these castes.

The temptation to use 'reservation' for consolidation of 'vote-banks' and 'valid pass-ports' to gain political power is fraught with danger and disaster of no mean dimension. The country is more fragmented and fractured, both economically and emotionally today than ever before. Instead of moving towards a classless and a casteless society, we are rushing head-long towards the emergence of new classes and castes whose only interest is to consolidate and safeguard their rights and privileges. Sanity demands that we should not shut our eyes 'like a pigeon on seeing a cat' to the new realities, one of which has been an unprecedented expression of disillusionment and desperation on the part of our youth after the Mandal Commission Report and what not. A boon becomes a bane when the vision to see

into the future and the courage to learn from the past mistakes are blurred and stunted by present calculations and electoral arithmetic.

At the same time no civilised society can afford to ignore the pitiable plight of millions and millions who have suffered the agony of humiliation, harassment and horrendous treatment at the hands of superior/higher classes and suffered silently the curses of deprivation, dispossession and exploitation. There is no denying the fact that till today the members of these backward classes/castes have been subjected to all types of extreme exploitation—economic, social and educational. Despite various schemes and programmes, there has been no tangible and trust-worthy improvement in the living conditions of these people. Inequalities between the 'haves' and 'have-nots' have widened and the spectre of caste-war openly dances in certain parts of the country to the chagrin of many and the helplessness of others.

While advocating the cause and justification of 'reservation' one should also address oneself to the glaring distortion that has come to the surface after implementing the policy uninterrupted for nearly four decades. There are no two opinions about the fact that the benefit/boon of reservation has gone to a few individuals/families whereas a vast segment of deserving and meriting such a treatment has remained untouched and uncovered. Now-onwards it should be the responsibility of the beneficiary of 'reservation policy' to bring up, educate and equip his offspring like the siblings of other castes and communities so that the 'benefit of reservation' is shared by other members of S.C/S.T. who have remained immune from this benefit so far. Moreover the principle of reservation should apply at the time of recruitment and not for promotions and out of the turn 'jumping over the queue'. In this way we can reduce the chances of perpetuating 'vested interests'.

Indian Youth is blindly aping the West

Ananda Coomaraswamy had once observed, "It is hard to realize how completely the continuity of Indian life has been severed...The beauty and logic of Indian life belongs to a dying past...The 19th century has degraded much and created nothing...A single generation suffices to break the threads of tradition and to create a nondescript and superficial being deprived of all roots, a sort of intellectual pariah." No doubt the East has been dazzled by modern Western civilisation. There has been a complete acceptance of Western models, especially by the youth, which finds in that civilisation a panacea for all its ills—economic, social, political, intellectual and even spiritual. The blind aping and application of Western thoughts, ideas and ideologies to Indian conditions and native problems have led to a lot of upheaval, both in rural and urban life.

Unfortunately the Indian youth has been swept off its feet and abject glow of material comforts and momentary thrill of 'success syndrome', has almost surrendered its moorings and the strength of its heritage. If looked at in their proper perspective and without pre-conceived notions and prejudices the youth of India would realise that 'imitation' renders the flow of thought 'blind and baneful', 'hollow and harmful' whereas 'influence' if properly analysed and annotated, becomes 'discerning and didactic', constructive and creative.

That the Indian youth has blindly taken to Western fashions and fads, illusions and idiosyncracies, is not a figment of imagination but a fact of life. The young are always on the look out to do something sensational and dramatic, unmindful of the conse-

quences that may follow their bizarre and boastful actions. It is the world of fashions, where the aping of the West is most conspicuous and candid.

'Youth is the blissful period of life' but with no direction and commitment to adhere to, the Indian youth finds itself in a blind alley, the other end of which appears hazy as well as haywire. In an age where print as well as electronic media play a decisive role in moulding the tastes and out-look of teen-agers and the youth, it is neither strange nor incredible to see young boys and girls walking and talking in a highly affected manner which betrays the hollow inside and exhibitionism outside. Watching the youth imitating the Western modes of living, eating and conversing is a treat for the sober and the sensible. Borrowed accents and flawed use of English language have become status symbols for them. Gum chewing, chocolate eating and using foreign slangs not only expose them to ridicule but also make them a butt of many a joke and rebuke of their elders. Without fully grasping the meaning of Western political as well as literary idioms they use them indiscriminately and reduce their own identity to naught. How they fall for Western music—Beatle, Jazz, Disco *et al*—is a fun to watch and the way they try to ape their tunes and tones, is a matter for serious concern and curative action. For them to make fun of social institutions of long-standing and underrate the role of homogenous and harmonious families, has become synonymous with modernity and modernism. To flout the past and under-estimate its contribution in the shaping of India's inherent strength of tolerance and co-existence is a matter which should cause alarm to all those who wish the Indian youth a purposeful and proper

way of life. So that every glittering object does not appear to them as gold.

Dandyism, Hippyism, drug addiction are some of the other Western gifts which the Indian youth have accepted, appropriated and adopted into their lives as instant and corrective remedies of their failures and frustrations. If the Western youth have gone in for these short-cuts and found them effective though deceptive, the Indian youth has only imitated them for their innovation and their Western colouring. Another area where our youth take a cue from the West is the 'place of present' in the over-all cycle of time. For the West, existentialism is the cult most current and fashionable among the youth there. With moral and spiritual values on the decline and the mania for material gains on the rise, it is but natural that the youth should be dazed and drowned in the din of epicurean philosophy of life where 'eat, drink and be merry' is the 'be all and end all' of all their passions and pursuits. Life before and after holds no promise for them nor does the trinity of 'past-present & future' mean anything substantial and self-sustaining.

By falling headlong for Western values and vociferous vibrations of confused sounds and sensations, Indian youth have thoughtlessly put all their eggs in one basket of materialism and rationalism, the base and bottom of which are frail and faulty. However hard they may pose and pretend, the soil of their minds and hearts shall never accept blind and total grafting and planting of Western ways of life without questioning their relevance and validity at the more matured and mellowed stage of their later life.

Terrorism in India—Kashmir, Punjab and Eastern Region

In recent years terrorists and terrorism in various shapes have posed formidable challenges in several countries. Many shrewd observers expressed the fear some time ago, especially in the early eighties, that in the next 15 years or so the menace of terrorism would increase and cause greater havoc. Ironically, while terrorism at various levels has sharply declined in the Western and Middle Eastern countries, the menace has assumed disconcerting dimensions in some parts of India, especially Kashmir, Punjab and North-Eastern areas.

This feature presents a systematic account of the causes and consequences of terrorism, together with a peep into the future.

I. Origin, Aims and Beliefs

Terrorism is born in a sick society. Discontentment, disillusionment and intense frustration over the existing state of affairs are major cause of militancy. As long as society continues to remain sick and is characterised by social, economic and political injustices, real or imaginary, indefensible delays in obtaining justice and continuing maladministration, terrorism will remain in some form or other. It may get subdued for a time but is bound to raise its ugly head again when the grievances re-emerge and there are grave provocations to sensitive people determined to preserve their identity and achieve their goals which are often illegal. At times they aim at demolishing the existing structure.

Direct and indirect encouragement is being given to terrorists by vested interests to carry on their nefarious activities in vulnerable areas. There is also the impact of internal factors, especially the

motivated propaganda by hostile sections. For these reasons the Government of India has found it difficult to check the lawless elements. The killing of innocent people, the looting of banks and the bomb blasts continue to disrupt public and private activity. There is a nexus between smugglers and terrorists.

Terrorists believe in the cult of the bomb and the gun—violence by all available means. They have no respect for Rule of Law, orderly government, peaceful society, fundamental rights for everyone, freedom of thought and expression and of religion.

Terrorism appears in many shapes—from the solitary individual who plants a crude, home-made bomb, hand-grenade or other explosive in a shopping centre, a bus stand or a railway compartment, to the furtive group that plans kidnappings and assassination of important personalities or the well-equipped and adequately financed organisation that uses force to terrorise an entire population.

The aim of all categories of terrorists is to wreak vengeance on those whom they regard as oppressors, usurpers, enemies and obstacles in the achievement of their goals. In most cases the goals are illegal, unethical and disruptionist; sometimes they seek redress of genuine ethnic grievances or wish to bring about a social and political revolution or an upheaval of some kind, demolish certain regimes they disapprove of, even when these regimes are firmly established.

During the past two decades or so, the U.S., Canada, almost all the Latin American countries, Ireland, Britain, France, the Federal Republic

of Germany, Spain, Italy, Turkey, Lebanon, Egypt, Jordan, Israel, Burma, Thailand, Malaysia, the Philippines, Indonesia and Japan have suffered from terrorism in one way or another.

The Symbionese Liberation Army of the U.S., the Front de Liberation du Quebec (Front for the Liberation of Quebec) in Canada, the Tupamaros of Uruguay and the Ejercito Revolucionario de Pueblo (People's Revolutionary Army) of Argentina, the IRA of Ireland, the Baader Meinhof group of the Federal Republic of Germany, the Red Brigades of Italy, the Palestinian guerillas and Arab terrorist groups such as the "Black September Organisation", the Hukbalahaps of the Philippines and the Red Army of Japan have been notable terrorist groups in different parts of the world.

II. Terrorism in India

Terrorism in India is not a new phenomenon; it has a history extending over a century and more. In the second half of the 19th century, the Wahabis, a puritanical Islamic sect steeped in fundamentalism, unleashed a wave of violence in India. In 1872 one of its members assassinated Lord Mayo, the Viceroy, in the Andaman islands. Around the turn of the century emerged revolutionary terrorism which continued as a highly romantic and admired strand of the freedom movement with its own legends of heroes.

Insurrectionary violence, involving acts of terrorism, erupted in Nagaland in the early 50s, in Mizoram in 1966, in Manipur in the late 70s, in Assam in 1979 and in Tripura in 1980. Extremists in the Communist Party of India (Marxist) whose activities began worrying the party's leadership

from 1965, emerged as a distinct stream in 1967 and formed the Communist Party of India (Marxist-Leninist) on May 1, 1969. They resorted to violence in the whole of West Bengal and parts of Assam, Tripura, Bihar, Orissa, Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Maharashtra and Punjab before they were suppressed by the police.

Certain sections of society are more vulnerable to the call of terrorism. It has also been found that generally members of the elite and relatively better off classes get attracted to terrorism, not the poor. Apparently, participation in a terrorist movement fills one with a sense of a glorious mission and gives him or her a romantic, esteemed identity.

Idealistic fervour inspired the Naxalites, for instance. Their revolutionary terrorism was the result of many factors—sensitivity to poverty and criminal exploitation, helplessness in the face of an economic order which frustrated their legitimate ambition and made unemployment and under-employment the lot of most Indian students and youth, and the humiliation suffered by them and others at the hands of those in power.

Freedom and democracy are among the main targets of terrorists. Basically, terrorism is political violence. It is directed against democracies, against the basic values people cherish and the strategic interests of the modern State. At times, though unwillingly, totalitarian regimes become allies of terrorists. Their aims often coincide, even though for short periods.

It is indeed a stark irony that India—the land of Buddha, Guru Nanak and Mahatma Gandhi—is now regarded as among the most violent and highly disturbed societies. There are frequent communal riots, and lately, numerous cases of killings and depredations by terrorists. Millions of people in this country seem to have accepted violence as a routine affair. There is violence in the people's hearts; it finds expression whenever tempers get frayed at the slightest provocation. It is like tinder that

readily catches fire. The legitimacy of the State itself is being questioned by many. This shows how fragile and vulnerable Indian society has become and to what extent people are prone to become violent.

During the past year the Government of India and its spokesman repeatedly drew attention of the Pakistan authorities to their active interference in Indian affairs by giving terrorists direct encouragement, with supplies of weapons, monetary incentives and also facilities for training in their territory. These trained terrorists have been operating in Punjab and J & K.

Islamabad promised to look into the matter but did nothing to stop such activity. The Pakistan authorities were in fact guilty of duplicity and deceit in the matter. This intensified the tensions between the two countries. While talking of peace, Pakistani leaders substantially expanded the existing arrangements for training terrorists and other saboteurs in their camps.

Despite the series of measures taken by the Government to check the menace, terrorism has lately been spreading in Kashmir Valley, Punjab, Assam and the adjacent areas. To keep track of the situation and ensure up-to-date information about the activities of the gangs operating in various parts of the country, the Government of India set up, in summer, 1990, a high-level group. The group comprises the Cabinet Secretary, the Home Secretary and top officials of the Intelligence Bureau. The Centre has instructed the State governments to ensure thorough screening in public places like railway stations, bus terminals, temples and cinemas.

More Terrorism in 1989-90: Violence, subversive activity and other forms of terrorism have been increasing in the country during the past few months, according to the Union Home Ministry. Its report for 1989-90 admits that such lawlessness has particularly affected the border States of Punjab and J & K. The latest manifestation of terrorism has been

through insurgent and extremist activities in a few North-Eastern States, and the spurt in left-extremist violence in Andhra Pradesh and Bihar.

Increased caste and communal tensions in some parts of the country, particularly in Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh, also vitiated the law and order situation, causing strain on the law enforcement machinery. In Punjab the security forces continued to mount pressure on the terrorists and raids were conducted on their hideouts. Fresh initiatives were taken by the Government to tackle the problem.

Left-wing extremist violence in 1989 registered an increase, with Andhra Pradesh and Bihar continuing to remain the worst affected areas. The Telengana region-based People's War Group (PWG) was responsible for the bulk of violence. The targets of attack included public property. Increased extremist violence was also witnessed in Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra and Orissa due to the spread of PWG activists to the border areas in the Godavari valley. Bihar, Tamil Nadu, Maharashtra, Uttar Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat and Karnataka were considerably affected by caste conflicts and gang warfare during the year.

In the North-East, the All Bodo Students' Union (ABSU) demanded a separate State resulting in considerable violence. The United Liberation Front of Assam (ULFA), an extremist group, stepped up its campaign of murder, looting and kidnapping. These activities spread panic among the non-Assamese people.

III. Deepening Crisis in Kashmir

The Kashmir Valley has for months been the scene of intense and ceaseless terrorist activity. Since the State administration proved incapable of controlling the situation in J & K, the militants were able to hold large areas as well as the people to ransom. The National Front Government, bowing to persistent pressure from many political and other sour-

ccs, changed the State Governor, Mr G.C. Saxena replacing Mr Jagmohan whose strict actions designed to flush out the terrorists and other militants from the region, had aroused much resentment among the concerned parties.

Acts of terrorism, including killings, continue in the Valley. It is learnt that about 2500 militants are still at large in the area. Some observers contend that the situation there has worsened after the exit of Mr Jagmohan.

Mr Jagmohan demanded on May 30 a high-level enquiry (a Supreme Court panel) into the causes—subversion and terrorism—in the troubled State. According to him, this was imperative because "the truth must prevail". All those people who are responsible for the explosive situation in the Kashmir Valley should be exposed so that the people of this country know who were the personalities responsible for the imbroglio. The proposed Supreme Court panel should look into all aspects of the Kashmir problem. It should investigate how fundamentalist, subversive and terrorist elements had surfaced and who was patronising them. The facts about Kashmir could come out only when all aspects of the problem were looked into and the root cause of terrorism was located.

Mr Jagmohan claimed that when he went to Kashmir, pro-Pakistan forces had overtaken the Valley; there was total collapse of administration and the terrorists' writ ran in a large area. He had retrieved the situation from such a serious turn and "put the Valley back on the path to recovery".

Reports from the U.S. indicate that the Kashmiri separatists are planning a terrorist campaign outside Kashmir to increase the level of tension and bring the prospect of a war between India and Pakistan closer. The separatists are planning the campaign with weapons acquired in Pakistan and new recruits from among the recently arrived "refugees" from Kashmir. The Kashmiri militants are also getting help from

Afghan rebels.

A Press Guild of India report disclosed that hundreds of people have been killed and nearly 2,00,000 have fled Jammu and Kashmir in the past three years. Many of the victims were top lawyers, judges, businessmen, shopkeepers and engineers. Fundamentalists and militants had infiltrated every sphere of the Government; what ruled high was not the writ of the Government but that of the J & K Liberation Front.

Terrorists' New Strategy: A relatively new and ransom-motivated strategy adopted by terrorists in Kashmir, Punjab, and also in some north-eastern States, is kidnapping of V.I.P.s or relations of highly placed police officials. The aims of this strategy are three-fold: extortion of large amounts of money, demoralisation of security forces so as to check their activity, and to get their accomplices released.

The recent spurt in these kidnappings has been causing serious concern among security forces engaged in anti-terrorist operations. Other measures to demoralise the security forces include ambushing their vehicles, attacking their pickets, trying to dissuade the Special Police Officers and Home Guards from performing their duties and killing them whenever they get an opportunity to do so.

The terrorists have been partially successful in getting their accomplices released or bailed out. The kidnapping of the daughter of the Union Home Minister and the subsequent release of five top terrorists in Jammu and Kashmir motivated the Punjab terrorists also to adopt kidnapping as a means to secure the release of other terrorists from police custody and even from jails.

IV. Punjab

Punjab has witnessed a spurt of terrorist activity during the past few years. Terrorism entered a dangerous phase in 1984-85. Earlier, during 1982-83 scores of innocent people, mostly Hindus, were killed in a reckless spree. In the later phase Hindus

as well as Sikhs, including women and children, were killed with the use of the latest sophisticated weapons.

Places of worship were turned by the militants into arsenals. The accelerated lawlessness ultimately led to military action "Operation Blue-star", which became a sore point with the Sikhs. The assassination of Mrs Indira Gandhi was a manifestation of the militants' anger against what they described as "oppressive policies" of the Union Government.

In May, 1985, there were many transistor bomb blasts in Delhi, U.P. and Haryana. These took a heavy toll of life. There was a massive conspiracy to indulge in destruction and killings; proof of this came through the discovery of large quantities of weapons at various places. There were conspiracies to kill VIPs. For instance, a plot to kill Mr Rajiv Gandhi during his visit to the U.S.A. was discovered well in time. There was also a conspiracy to assassinate a former Haryana Chief Minister in the U.S.A. Sant Harehand Singh Longowal, President of the Akali Dal, was murdered inside a gurdwara on August 20, 1985.

Terrorists have intensified their activity in recent months, killing people at will. In certain districts near the border it is the writ of the terrorists that runs rather than that of the administration. Encounters with the police and para-military forces have resulted in the death of many terrorists, but their number seems to be increasing. Their losses in men and weapons (through police seizures and otherwise) are soon replenished.

The Punjab Governor said recently: "More innocent people are being killed even when more terrorists are being nabbed and killed." Ironically, a policy of reconciliation and attempts to win over terrorists and bring them round to paths of sanity have had a contrary effect. Terrorism gained strength from October, 1989, onwards. The militants have friends and associates in the Punjab police and also in the civil administration.

In the border districts such as Gurdaspur the mass base of terrorists has increased. They find it easy to recruit more young men to their ranks. Scores of Sarpanches have links with terrorists and smugglers. Youngsters from rural families feel terrorist activity is an easy way to get rich. Detention, if they are caught, is no deterrent; they manage to amass large amounts of wealth through extortion and looting of banks.

In Bathinda, another sensitive area, terrorists began running a parallel government after the last Lok Sabha poll. In a few months they collected or rather extorted crores of rupees from traders and others in "mandis". In many Punjab areas there is panic because of the terrorists' activity. The terrorists resorted to kidnapping also. In one case they kidnapped a father and two grandsons. They demanded 15 AK-47 guns, ammunition and a ransom of Rs 15 lakh.

The Central and State Governments have taken stern steps and also adopted conciliatory policies, but to no effect. One instance is the Terrorists and Disruptive Activities Bill passed by Parliament in May, 1983. The measure became necessary because the situation assumed grave dimensions. The Act provided for death penalty for terrorists found guilty of killings, establishment of special courts for speedy trial of offenders. The measure had later to be put in cold storage and withdrawn following strong protests by the Akalis and others.

In his Independence Day broadcast this year the Union President, Mr R. Venkataraman, condemned the brutal killing and kidnapping of innocent people by the militants and urged the people to help the State authorities in curbing terrorism. The killings, as rightly pointed out, were aberrations from human decency. He also felt that unless the State, with public support, is able to curb all forms of terrorism, "we as a nation will soon forfeit all claims to be representatives of an ancient culture and civilisation."

Militants dislike Political process: Commencement of the political process, a prelude to elections in trouble-torn J & K, Punjab and elsewhere is anathema to the militant groups whose response to any move in this direction is to step up violence. According to a Union Home Ministry note circulated on September 21, 1990, an important part of the militants' strategy in Punjab has been to counter, through increased random killings and bomb explosions, any attempt by the administration to start the political process.

In Kashmir Valley the terrorist groups had mounted attacks, on a selective basis, on local political leaders and legislators to discourage any political initiative. The note conceded that the situation in the Kashmir Valley continued to remain difficult with militants maintaining the tempo of attacks against the security forces. Some of the killings in June and early July were characterised by brutality. Of late, attacks on the security forces have been marked by a high degree of planning and motivation.

The newspapers in the Valley, too, are under extreme pressure from the militants to act as their mouthpiece and to serve as their instrument to spread disinformation and inflammatory and secessionist statements. Local newspapers often carry advertisements encouraging terrorist activity and denigrating terrorists as "martyrs" and security men as "oppressors".

A similar pattern is discernible in Punjab where, along with violent action, a sustained propaganda campaign continues on behalf of terrorists through advertisements and statements issued by "self-styled" human rights organisations.

V. North-Eastern Region

In India's north-eastern region, which comprises the "Seven Sisters"—the States of Assam, Nagaland, Manipur, Meghalaya, Tripura, Arunachal Pradesh and Mizoram, danger signals appear

every now and then. Some years ago, several eastern areas (especially Nagaland, Tripura and Mizoram) were continually rocked by violence for which the extremists of various categories were responsible. Along some of the borders, raids, murders, kidnappings and ambush of security forces became frequent.

Although the sorely troubled regions, at any rate, most of them, have lately been pacified and the discontented elements brought round to the path of sanity and have reconciled themselves to the compulsions postulated by the country's constitutional framework, it would not be correct to say that the militants have abandoned their tactics. They do raise their ugly heads now and then, but there is a distinct improvement in the law and order situation in most areas.

In the autumn months the administrations of all the north-eastern areas evolved a joint strategy to counter insurgency. The mischief-mongers generally operated from across the borders and it was felt that coordinated efforts were necessary to implement an action plan evolved after prolonged consultations in New Delhi and the State capitals. Such coordination became urgent in view of the reports that the secessionist forces had joined hands to create trouble.

Manipur and Mizoram decided to organise common combing operations against the Hill People's Convention which recently launched an armed insurgency for obtaining an autonomous district for the Himar tribes. The North-Eastern Council also decided recently to plan joint operations to curb terrorism.

The menace of political assassinations, kidnappings, extortions and other acts of utter lawlessness brought much discredit to the Assam Government whose credibility has been virtually reduced to zero. All the plans drawn up to tackle the menace of extremists operating in the region have proved fruitless. Several new groups of terrorists have been formed and have become active. The endless internal dissensions in the ruling

A.G.P. have greatly weakened the administration. The ULFA reportedly runs a parallel administration in the isolated areas and has caused panic among the people. There is little security of life; peace and order are seriously threatened. Recently three ULFA men were set free to save the lives of three Oil Company officials. This created a vicious circle. The extremists' activity have queered the pitch for Assam elections.

VI. Why young men become Terrorists

Several factors play a part in the process of transforming innocent youth into extremists, militants and then hard-core terrorists. No one is a born terrorist, nor does heredity or any family tradition or blood relationship play a part. A terrorist's son does not *ipso facto* become a terrorist. In fact, there have been cases of young men developing a feeling of revulsion against, and spurning, terrorism.

The known causes are:-

(a) Idealism, as in the case of Naxalites. The over-enthusiastic youth believe they can, and should, adopt the cult of the gun and the bomb to attain their political goal, may be Khalistan in Punjab or an independent, autonomous entity, as in the north-eastern region such as Assam. He finds the prevailing social, economic and political set-up intolerable.

(b) A terrorist is in essence a rebel, a psychic outlaw, who is keen to establish an identity different from that of others following the routine course of life. A political goal or a community's demand seems to many discontented people impossible to achieve through legal and orderly means. Hence the resort to the agitationists' approach and then adoption of extremist methods.

(c) The dismal prospects of gainful employment and the enforced idleness even after college education are also notable factors. Hence the Government's frequent employment and economic development packages designed to provide more jobs and more avenues of employment

through establishment of industries. It is another matter that these offers have not elicited the desired response.

(d) Terrorist tactics such as looting banks (now all too common in Punjab), extortions, blackmail, etc appear to be easy methods of making money. Lakhs of rupees (enough for a life-time) can be obtained through a couple of bank robberies.

A typical example was the daring bank robbery that occurred on September 24 when terrorists looted more than Rs 36 lakh from a bank in Amritsar city's busy Court Road. Six terrorists came to the bank; four of them armed with a machine-gun, two others with mausers and one carrying gunny bags. They forced the manager to open the safe at gun point while the other two held the bank staff and customers at bay. They sped away after stuffing the cash in the gunny bags.

Although growth of terrorism is a slow process, one cannot rule out a sudden precipitation, and an impulsive, passionate response to a given situation—a personal injury, a communal trauma, a political tragedy of great magnitude, etc.

A terrorist gets more and more de-personalised; he seeks to end his alienation through acts of violence. The passage to wantonness and recklessness is swift, and he begins to get a "kick" out of this lethal business. As he commits more and more daring deeds of destruction, which in his conceit he imagines as "sacrificial" acts, he descends deep into a state of unreality. As he tastes blood and inhales the breath of success, breaking the barrier of initiation and achieving his "manhood", he is more and more convinced of "the charmed life" he leads. He is then prepared to go to any extent and becomes reckless and defiant to a high degree.

VII. The Future

Although terrorism in its most virulent form has almost faded out in the West and in Latin America, only incorrigible optimists will contend that this menace would end in the next decade or two.

Another notable aspect is that even though terrorists have gained much tactical success at places, they have virtually failed to capture political power. In some cases they have forced governments to accept their demands but their success is short-lived.

Terrorists' activities are likely to continue in some form in future because the political issues and situations which gave birth to them continue to smoulder. Many experts have expressed the fear that terrorists may even acquire nuclear weapons. This fear is believed to have prompted several governments to expedite solutions of burning political and economic problems. Unfortunately, politico-legal measures employed by nations and prominent bodies like the UN, ICAO and the EEC to curb terrorism have mostly proved abortive because of political or ideological differences among nations.

Terrorism itself constitutes the biggest violation of human rights. The militants' propaganda against the security forces is motivated to exaggerate police excesses. Democracies seek a world order that is based on justice. When innocents are victimized and the guilty go unpunished, the terrorists are able in some regions to undermine the foundation of civilised society. This is a blow to our fundamental moral values and casts a dark cloud over the future of humanity. So we should not allow the actions of terrorists to affect our policies or deflect us from our goals. Where terrorism succeeds in intimidating governments into altering their foreign policies, it opens the door to more terrorism. Successful acts of terrorism embolden those who resort to it, and it encourages others to join their ranks.

If people remain firm and extend full cooperation in checking militants we can look ahead to a time when terrorism will cease to be a major factor in world affairs. But the challenge has to be met with determination.

Social Justice and Reservations

Much is stated to have been done in pursuance of the national goal of Social Justice, the most publicised and controversial being the system of ever-increasing reservations. How far has the goal been achieved? Where precisely do the faults in implementation of assurances lie? This article seeks to strike a rational balance between conflicting viewpoints.

The current year 1990-91 was declared some months ago as "A Year of Social Justice". The basic concept of the Constitution of India was to build up a polity in which there would be justice—social, economic and political—for all sections of the people. Any plan or programme for promoting social justice would of course include measures to check exploitation of the vulnerable sections of society, improve the economic condition of the masses and to ensure equality in all areas of activity.

Clause 2 of Article 38 of the Constitution requires the State to strive for minimising the inequalities of income and endeavour to eliminate the inequalities of status, facilities and opportunities. The Indian polity's biggest weakness is that there are social, political and economic injustices galore. Decades of effort to check and eliminate them have proved counter-productive.

Prime Minister V.P. Singh had a point when he said early in October that "social justice is at stake in India". He added that implementation of the Mandal Commission's recommendations was only the first step towards the removal of age-old imbalances. At the same time he urged the country's youth to preserve the unity of the country. Actually, social justice hardly exists in various parts of India; it has to be promoted and ensured. Something that exists only in name or of which there is only

a semblance, cannot rightly be said to be in danger. This goal has to be achieved by all possible means and when it is achieved, the solid gain must indeed be safeguarded through all possible means with the unstinted cooperation of all sections of the people, backward and forward. The Prime Minister has exhorted the backward classes to fight for their socio-economic and judicial rights. He has also appealed to anti-reservationists to "see the tears of the oppressed that have seared the pages of history like acid for so long".

Blots on social system: Totally indefensible and highly disgraceful blots on Indian social structure in the course of history must of course be removed. No sane and fair-minded person would differ on this point, though many differ with regard to the method of achieving the goal of social and economic justice; especially the uplift of the weaker sections of Indian society. Implicit in the exhortations to backward classes to fight for their rights is the danger of giving direct encouragement to movements, prompted by decades of injustice and denial of rights, becoming violent.

The campaigners often tend to become reckless and the movements go out of hand. Anti-social elements then join the fray and even dominate the campaign. This became evident during the prolonged anti-reservations agitation in Delhi and other areas of North India.

As a cynic commented recently, several sensitive areas have become virtual tinder-boxes; only a match or a flash is enough to set them ablaze. The resultant violence would not promote the cause of any section of society; the highly desirable goal of promoting social justice and of ensuring equality of opportunity to the backward categories of the population would itself get endangered. The topmost

priority would then have to be accorded to the maintenance of law and order. All the programmes and well-sustained campaigns aimed at enhancing the opportunities for the betterment of the backward sections would suffer setbacks. The grave danger in a highly disturbed set-up would be of a widespread social revolution that might engulf several parts of the country in North and South. This cannot be brushed aside as a remote possibility in view of the repeated threats and counter-threats given by the pro and anti-reservation groups. Mr M. Karunanidhi, Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, and several other advocates of full-scale reservations have already warned that there would be a social revolution in the country if the Mandal Report is not implemented. The opponents of reservations for half the total population or more and the implicit disregard of merit and talent are equally adamant that their interests must not be so blatantly sacrificed in the hasty endeavour to build up political vote-banks.

Need for just solution: In such circumstances, what could be the panacea for the intense and fast spreading unrest among various sections of the people? A compromise can be evolved after a thorough discussion of the problem in a constructive spirit so as to fully accommodate the viewpoint of the aggrieved sections, the have-nots, the underprivileged and the masses who have admittedly suffered for decades and are still in a sorry plight. The equally rational standpoint of those whose careers would be gravely endangered by the policy of increasing percentages of reservations should also be kept in view. Of course there must not be any grabbing tendencies at any level; it is the grabbing trend that causes trouble. After all, national interests must be supreme, not those of

any particular section of the people. No section can justifiably claim a monopoly of privilege and of prize posts. Justice there must be for all, whatever the extent of angry actions of some and bitter reactions of others.

The letter and spirit of the Constitution should be the guiding factor, not mere rhetoric and immolations of boys and girls many of whom did not perhaps comprehend what the Mandal Commission really sought. The basic concepts of the founding fathers of the Indian Republic certainly ruled out a caste-based polity, perpetual caste conflicts and regular caste wars. Dominance of caste in Indian society would mean erosion of all that has been gained so far through the constructive actions of our leaders of yester-years.

There is also an apparent contradiction in the decision taken some time ago to scrap the caste column in application forms for various categories of government jobs and the new trend at some places to specify and even emphasise caste of candidates. Would that not nullify the progress made so far in removing the stigma of caste on Indian society?

It would be relevant in this connection to recall the views of Jawaharlal Nehru: "For the last few hundred years the caste system has weakened us socially and nationally. It has separated us up into small groups; it has separated us into hierarchies of people, some calling themselves high caste, and some middle caste and some low caste and some no caste at all. And so we have this inequality perpetuated, one group being exploited by another. I think that was the main reason for India's weakness and India's downfall."

Grave Danger: If the caste system in a different form is revived in the country as a result of the prolonged reservations system, there is a possibility of history repeating itself of society getting badly split and of the country becoming weaker. Time will show whether Mr V.P. Singh's hope that India will emerge stronger from

enforcement of the Mandal Commission's recommendations or whether, as some urban commentators have cautioned, the country would be torn by caste conflicts here, there and everywhere.

The latest reports of disturbances in Bihar may be taken as early indications of the shape of things to come, especially because the incidents have occurred in the wake of the prolonged tussles between specific, infuriated caste groups. The hapless State's countryside, it is reliably stated, is getting increasingly engulfed in a violent caste war. There is virtual madness over the Mandal Report. It is almost as if one is sliding back towards the Middle Ages. The pro-reservationists, it is learnt, are preparing themselves to hit back from the smaller district towns, which is their chosen area of operations. These groups have received considerable moral support for launching a programme of violence to achieve their goal. The Prime Minister and the Social Welfare Minister, Mr Ram Bilas Paswan, openly advised the backward people to "fight for their rights". Since the Union Government itself is doing its best for promoting the rights and privileges of the backward classes, it is a moot point whether the issue should be taken to the streets. The word "fight", if interpreted literally, would mean resorting to violence, even though the struggle can be carried on without adopting such tactics which are likely to recoil and lead sooner or later to a chain reaction. Therein lies the gravest danger from the national standpoint.

The administrations of States where the agitation for and against a high percentage of reservations is being envisaged are facing a dilemma. Because of the intensity of feelings on both sides and the conviction that the backward castes do need as much assistance as the administration can give them, some administrations often choose to act as mere observers of the scene. If the governments concerned suppress the agitations against reservations they would be accused of taking sides; if they use force

to check the elements creating trouble (such as reckless destruction of property) they would be facing the risk of losing political support of the progressive and forward groups.

"Heartless" system: The caste-class conundrum has greatly disappointed the earnest social reformers who had been striving to erase the caste stigma from Indian society, promote national integration and encourage people to describe themselves as Indians first and last. Even more than the rural or semi-urban people, it is the urban educated people who, it has been found, are steeped in casteism. But it needs to be noted that the urban backward class has become acutely aware of its reservation rights even as the urban "forward" class people are upset over the consequent deprivation of employment opportunities.

The Union Government's intention to provide for reservations for religious minorities also is prompted by the social justice theme. Backwardness knows no geographical or religious limitations, and there is no apparent reason for not making special provisions in respect of religious minorities. The well-placed and better-off groups among them would not need such concessions; the others certainly would. But will there ever be an end to this process?

Another promise made by the Prime Minister at the Patna rally early in October also needs to be followed up, especially because the basis in this case is unexceptionable. He described the existing administrative system as "heartless". It is indeed so, and the earlier this fault is rectified the better. A national debate on ways and means to change the system would be very helpful. In fact, if the administrative system of this country is made efficient and effective and ceases to be heartless, many of our problems would be solved and redress of grievance assured even without resorting to extraordinary measures some of which turn out to be highly controversial, even provocative.

Drift Towards Gulf War

U.N. resolutions and the warnings issued by several world leaders, including those of the U.S., Britain and some Arab countries, indicate that a war in the Gulf region is inevitable. They think it is a matter of a few weeks before an armed conflict begins — unless of course there is a dramatic turn towards peace, which appears unlikely. However, there is a switch in the power equation. The tiny Sheikdoms feel endangered and look for foreign protection.

At present there is a stalemate in the Gulf, with both President George Bush and Mr Saddam Hussein persisting in their rigid stands, and showing no signs of a climbdown. Things have come to such a pass that each of these two Presidents is accusing the other of crimes calling for trial under international law. But the stalemate is a deceptive one; the war of nerves continues. Worse, the preparations for a war also continue. Many international experts feel that even though efforts are still being made behind the scenes to avoid a large-scale armed conflict, the peace-makers are becoming pessimistic. Some of them feel disheartened because of the lack of response from either party.

The state of drift, though signifying in part the possibility of a settlement in due course (just as continuation of a dialogue between rivals and across-the-table negotiations even with the use of harsh words, wild accusations and abuses, are preferable to a destructive war) contains the seeds of conflict. Wily, scheming and over-ambitious leaders like Mr Saddam Hussein are capable of launching a sudden, furtive attack on the U.S. and other international armed forces currently roaming the seas or stationed in sorely troubled Saudi Arabia. Actually, Saudi Arabia will probably become a base of

western military operations against Iraq when the flash-point is reached. The U.S. itself is making preparations for a surprise armed manoeuvre so as to ensure the advantage of a first strike. It is no secret that the U.S. military forces have all the weapons needed for ensuring a final military victory. President Saddam Hussein has, however, warned that if there is an air, land or naval attack by the U.S. forces, Iraq would mobilise massive strength in both men and material. The American CIA Chief has stated on the basis of reliable information that Iraq possesses not only chemical weapons but also biological weapons to defend against which the current defensive suits meant for use in gas warfare are useless.

Red Signals: Washington is reported to have stepped up signals for an early war against Iraq without waiting for the UN economic sanctions to bite so deeply as to cause Mr Saddam Hussein to pull out from Kuwait. Reliable sources have indicated that although no definite decision has been taken, recent discussions between the President Bush and the U.S. Congress leaders indicate that there is more evidence to show that the Administration is looking more favourably on "an early war option". Another factor that may affect the military option decision is the reported systematic destruction of Kuwaiti assets by Iraq. Some sources speak of a scorched earth policy. This may shorten the time the US can wait for economic sanctions to drive Mr Saddam Hussein's army out of the "swallowed" Gulf Sheikdom.

The intensity of the U.S. bitterness, and hence of its readiness to wage war, is reflected, as usual, the White House rhetoric. After meeting the ousted Emir of Kuwait who visited Washington recently, President Bush declared: "Iraqi aggression has ransacked and pillaged a once-

peaceful and secure country, its population assaulted, incarcerated, intimidated and even murdered. Iraq is trying to wipe out an internationally recognised sovereign State, a member of the Arab League and of the United Nations, off the face of the world map."

The US National Security Officer added yet another dimension to the issue by saying that the denial of food to one million foreigners detained in the affected region, threatened by Iraq, would constitute an act of aggression. The conviction has lately been growing among leaders of several countries, especially those who are distinctly pro-US, that only a military solution would force President Saddam Hussein out of Kuwait — army action either through the UN or unilaterally (by the US).

An even more significant pointer to a clash of arms is the statement made by the UN Secretary-General, Mr Perez de Cuellar on October 19 that military action against Iraq would be justified if the UN Security Council sees no other solution to the Gulf crisis. A Central European magazine quoted the UN Secretary-General as saying that the UN Charter's Article 42 permits military action if the Security Council comes to that decision...it would be completely legal.

U.N. Assessment: The UN Security Council's latest assessment of the impact of sanctions against Iraq is sombre; more time is needed for the sanctions to have their intended effect. It is stated, however, that after the economic and air embargo against Iraq, the US is examining ways of gaining UN approval for military action. Meanwhile, according to US military estimates, when all the forces promised by various countries which have committed despatch of army units to Saudi Arabia (including those from the US,

Europe and Arab nations) arrive on the Arabian peninsula, more than 700,000 troops would have assembled along the border (Iraq has a common border with Saudi Arabia). That would undeniably be an impressive show of strength.

Reports from Islamabad confirm that Pakistan, which is going all out to please the US in order to secure the withheld economic and military aid from it, is pursuing an American plan for a tri-national force, comprising Pakistani, Turkish and Egyptian soldiers, to police the Gulf after the departure of US troops. The Americans have shown interest in equipping and financing the force if and when it is raised, along with affluent Arab nations.

It is understood that the US has asked Pakistan to send more troops to Saudi Arabia in order to strengthen the international military forces to meet all eventualities. Pakistan is likely to oblige its generous patron at this juncture whatever the complexion of the Government in Islamabad. But, according to the assessment of the situation made by military analysts in India and abroad, Pakistan's Gulf involvement is rather risky in view of the repercussions in that country.

The move, it is believed, is likely to have serious repercussions on the domestic front. While India has declined to send any army unit to the Gulf because it is against the use of force against any country, especially a friendly one such as Iraq with which India has maintained, and still wishes to maintain, good relations despite the condemnation of Saddam Hussein's aggression against Kuwait. Despatch of forces to the Gulf would naturally be interpreted as supporting the US move in the Gulf.

Pakistan's Gamble: In this connection, the attempt being made by Iraq to present a motivated interpretation of the situation needs to be noted. According to an Iraqi version, there are Arabs on one side and the Zionists (Israelis and imperialists) on the other. Pakistan is obviously running the risk of offending Iran, its traditional and long-term ally. Iran

regards Saudi Arabia as a bitter enemy. Iranian spokesmen have often described the Saudi royal family as "stooges of satanistic forces".

Iran, it is believed, has a great hold on the Shias of Pakistan whom it could ask to revolt against the Aslam Beg-Jatoi combination for its move to send troops to Saudi Arabia which is facing a possible Iraqi reprisal. Any split between the Shias and the Sunnis of Pakistan at any time, whoever is in power in Islamabad, can have serious social and political consequences in Pakistan.

However, it may be recalled that in the past also the Pakistan Government has generally supported US actions in the Gulf region, even when the people of Pakistan have been hostile to the American Administration. During the Suez crisis in 1956 Pakistan fully endorsed the U.K.-French move; in fact, it was bound to do so as a member of CENTO (now no longer in existence). In the "Black September" operation in Jordan Pakistan supported the Saudis (Gen Zia was then a Brigade Commander). "I will defend Saudi Arabia to the last drop of my blood", Gen Zia declared.

The power equation in the Gulf region has changed even before the outcome of the conflict is known.

Differences on Remedy: It is significant, however, that while Egypt is cooperating fully with the US (it is the biggest beneficiary of American aid at the moment), the Soviet Union and France are unwilling to support the US view that the military option is the only way out of the Gulf crisis. Actually, shrewd observers of the international scene have expressed the view that cracks have begun to show among the principal allies, and there are differences also over the supposed Soviet support to the US policy. Some of the differences were indicated by Mr Gorbachov at a press conference after the Helsinki summit of the Big Two. While there has been remarkable, and in many ways unprecedented, cooperation between the US and the Soviet Union at the United Nations on issues relating to Iraq's aggression against its pocket-size neighbour, there is little agree-

ment on the ways to resolve the complex Gulf crisis.

The Soviet Union and France are reportedly opposed to choice of the military option. Instead, they favour a peaceful solution reached through patient negotiations and other peaceful initiatives. The Soviet leaders, especially Mr Shevardnadze, have affirmed more than once that they will not direct their country's armed forces to join military operations against Iraq. The French President, Mr Francois Mitterand, made it clear after his recent visit to the Gulf that French military commanders in that volatile region had been directed to focus completely on enforcing the UN-sanctioned embargo and think only of a defensive posture.

Besides, it is believed that the Soviet Union and France would not like to be seen as partners in a US-led military action against Iraq which could be interpreted by the Arabs as a new imperialist crusade with "the Cross replaced as its emblem by a barrel of oil". It is possible that both the Soviet Union and France, which have often been suspicious of US intentions and have not approved of U.S. policies in the past, suspect an American intention to stay on in the Gulf region even after the end of the Gulf crisis with a view to commanding permanent influence in that region and placing the other Powers at a disadvantage. A long-term American presence in the seas there and in Saudi Arabia would not be favoured by any other big Power. India, too, has expressed opposition to any such subtle design. The power equation has changed already. The tiny Sheikdoms will now seek the protection of foreign troops against aggression.

Another aspect of the matter is now clear: If a war in the Gulf is fought, it would be the first of its kind with both the US and the Soviet Union on the same side of the fence (even if the USSR is not an active contestant). It would also be the first war between the rich North and the poor South. The whole rich world would be on the same side while many hard-hit Third World nations would be on the other side.

Centre & States: New Aid Plan

The share of Central financial assistance to the States is a frequently reviewed issue. Each time it is discussed, the States seek a still larger share of the "National cake", while the Centre rightly points out the constraints on its resources. The latest aid formula was discussed at the National Development Council session on October 11 this year.

The Background

While Part XI of the Constitution (Articles 245 to 263) prescribes the pattern of legislative, administrative and other relations between the Centre and the States, Part XII (Articles 264 to 293) govern the financial relations. The Finance Commission, a statutory body set up by the President under Article 280, makes recommendations for the distribution between the Union and the States of the net proceeds of taxes collected by the Centre. The Commission also lays down the principles which should govern the grants-in-aid to the States out of the Consolidated Fund of India.

The Central assistance being given to the States at present is in accordance with the Gadgil Formula which was first approved in 1969. It was welcomed at the time as a wholesome departure from the outdated practice of calculating the assistance on the basis of individual schemes and areas of development. It recognised the primary responsibility of the State governments for plan formulation. The modification made in 1980 was aimed at diverting greater help to the poorer and more backward States. Some better-off States felt, however, that they were being punished for bringing about economic development. The Gadgil Formula was later modified. Recently, the Planning Commission suggested

further modifications. At the National Development Council meeting, held on October 11, 1990, Union Finance Minister Madhu Dandavate, proposed an amended pattern.

The Development Council approved the new formula for determining the quantum of Central assistance to the States during the Eighth Plan. It provides incentives for fiscal management and disincentive for population. The allocation based on population has been reduced to 55 per cent from the existing 60 per cent. For the first time a 5 per cent allocation has been made for fiscal management under the new formula. The 10 per cent allocation for tax efforts in the Gadgil Formula has been done away with.

The allocations for distribution on the basis of per capita income and special development problems has been increased. For the per capita income it has been raised to 25 per cent from 20 per cent and for special development problems it has been hiked from 10 to 15 per cent. Of the 25 per cent for the per capita income, 5 per cent would be based by the "distance method" and 20 per cent as per the existing "deviation method".

The formula listed the special problems as coastal areas, special environmental issues, flood and drought prone areas, exceptionally sparse or thickly populated areas. Special financial difficulties for achieving minimum reasonable plan size, desert problems and those of slums in urban areas. The revised formula suggested that from the total central assistance, funds required for centrally aided schemes should be set apart, as was already being done. From the balance, separate amounts would be provided for three special area programmes—hill, tribal and border areas. From the remaining funds, 30

per cent should be given to special category States, including those comprising the North-Eastern Council.

Dandavate Formula

The "Dandavate Formula" proposed the appointment of a committee to suggest durable solutions for tackling financial problems of Special Category States. Assam and Jammu and Kashmir should be given the same grant-loan ratio (90 : 10) as for other Special Category States. The new formula did not propose "drastic changes". Thus no non-Special Category State would "gain or lose" more than 7 per cent from the present Central assistance. The formula does not promise much by way of additional assistance, which is often described as "doles" given to the States at the discretion of the Centre.

Spelling out the problems likely to crop up in the economy, Mr Dandavate informed the NDC that large aid was in the pipeline, which lay unutilised. The State governments could play a particularly important role in this regard because many projects were in the State sector. The Central Government appealed to all State governments to help in this national effort and to prepare the people for meeting the adverse economic impact of the Gulf crisis on the economy.

At the same time, the Centre did not wish to brush aside the special problems facing the States. He noted that the biggest difficulty being faced by almost all States, in the context of the Eighth Plan formulation, was in the area of financial resources. The Centre proposes to give the States maximum help in this arena, though its own position is not much better.

The Centre is also trying to give the States better flexibility in the system of assistance for centrally spon-

sored schemes. In all options for changes in the pattern of distribution of Central assistance put up for the NDC's consideration by the Planning Commission, fiscal management found an important place. The enlarged concept—as against the limited tax effort concept—was based on a comparison of the assurances given by the States at the time of Plan formulation with the actual performance.

Financial management and observance of fiscal norms have seldom been strong points either at the Centre or in the States. Repeated exhortations by financial experts in this matter have proved futile. Under the new formula, Mr Dandavate can keep 5 per cent of the old allocation with himself to insist on State governments spending the funds according to established fiscal norms. The truth is that the State governments, almost all of them, have long given up making any effort for additional mobilisation of resources from within. Populism and profligacy, rather than efficiency and economy, have been quite common. That is why the Dandavate Formula has scrapped the 10 per cent allocation for tax efforts provided by the Gadgil Plan.

Lopsided Set-up

The fact is that financial dependence of the States on the Centre has adversely affected the federal character of Indian society. The States are largely to blame for this. But there have been several instances of the Centre trying to concentrate powers, economic and political, in its own hands, and also of favouring certain States while bypassing the claims of others. According to one commentator, some States have become virtual paupers. Himachal and Haryana in recent times found it difficult to disburse salaries to their staff. Even the relatively better-off States such as Maharashtra, Gujarat and Tamil Nadu cannot afford to launch big development projects without Central assistance. States facing unique and extraordinary problems, notably Himachal Pradesh, Jammu and Kashmir, Assam and Punjab, are

in a fix. The new formula lists a wide range of "special" problems which would cover most of the States. In effect, the position regarding Central assistance remains unchanged; only there is a new name for the aid formula. The substitution of "fiscal management" for "tax effort" is however to be welcomed since it is more realistic.

The State governments have been urged to exercise strict fiscal discipline in view of the Gulf crisis which has caused an economic crunch of unimaginable dimensions in the country. Addressing the National Development Council meeting, the Prime Minister said in this connection: "We have to make sacrifices; otherwise we will be engulfed by the Gulf tidal wave. The Chief Ministers should go back to their States and explain the seriousness of the situation to the people."

On the Gadgil Formula, Mr V.P. Singh commented that the proposed modifications did not involve any major changes since the variation in the Central Government's assistance to the States would not vary more than 7 per cent.

The views of the Chief Ministers varied according to the degree of development of their States. While the more prosperous States like Maharashtra, Gujarat and Haryana felt that the per capita income should not be the criterion for distribution of Central assistance, the Chief Ministers of less developed States insisted that Central aid to their States should be stepped up so that the per capita income rose to the national average.

It would be useful to recall the recommendations of the Sarkaria Commission in this regard. The Commission's major recommendation was for sharing of corporation tax, income tax, excise duties and levy of a tax on advertisements. A review of the rate of royalty paid to the States has also been proposed. Modernisation of treasury systems and making available foreign borrowings by the States from the banks, the issue of tax-free municipal bonds and assistance for natural calamities were also

proposed. There are also recommendations relating to government subsidies, executive functioning of the Finance Commission, and the Planning Commission.

Punjab seeks Modifications: Mr Virendra Verma, Governor of Punjab, indicated that the State Government was agreeable to the reduction in weightage of the population factor but opposed the separate weightage for area regarding distribution of Central assistance. A suitable link between the work guarantee programme and the small family norm should be established, particularly in view of the increasing strain on the State's budgetary resources and burgeoning population.

He suggested that the Gadgil Formula on the disbursing of Central aid should be modified by reducing weightage to population from 60 per cent to 50 per cent, with some weightage for performance on the population control front. There should be no specific weightage for area; the concept of tax effort should be extended to cover fiscal management, weightage to special problems should be increased to 15 per cent, besides giving 5 per cent weightage to special indicators.

Moreover, the number of centrally sponsored schemes should be minimised, if not eliminated altogether, because they "do not go along with the concept of decentralisation of power and planning". The entire aid meant for externally aided projects could be passed on to the States as per the recommendations of the Ninth Finance Commission. To reduce the burden of indebtedness on the States, the grant component of 30 per cent in the Central assistance should be increased to 50 per cent. As for the proposed work guarantee scheme, Mr Verma felt it would have the least impact on Punjab since the actual problem in the State was that of the educated unemployed youth. To resolve it, creation of additional self-employment opportunities is advisable. This remedy would prove effective in other States too.

Fasts, Bandhs and 'Yatras'

In recent weeks Bandhs, chain fasts, hunger-strikes and "Yatras" of various types have been common phenomena. These have dislocated life, office activity, education and much else besides. Have these practices served any useful purpose? The proposition for discussion is: "Fasts, Bandhs and "Yatras" should be banned by law since they are largely futile, wasteful and do not benefit anyone."

Mr A Sir, I feel confident that every rational, unbiased and responsible citizen of this country will agree with the proposition before the House. During the past many months, chain fasts, Bandhs, Maha Bandhs and "Yatras" on foot or in "Raths" followed by motor-cades, have been witnessed by lakhs of people, especially in North Indian States. In effect they are supposed to be various forms of protests against some injustice, real or imaginary, and generally against, governmental policy, administrative decision or pronouncement. I would like to ask a simple question: Have these practices brought any benefit to any section of society, including those who adopted these tactics with much hope. The participants sat and slept in tents for several days; but ultimately they had to call off their modes of protest on receiving assurances of some kind or none at all. There have been instances of these fasts and slogan raising against the Government or some particular official just petering out and the participants dispersing quietly, or after shouting some slogans claiming victory, following intervention of some politicians or mediators. In many cases the as-

surances are merely to "give sympathetic consideration to their demands". Whether these assurances are fully implemented is another matter; most of the time only token action is taken and the basic grievances remain unredressed. In a few cases the fasts are fake; these supposed to be doing without food or water take refreshments on the sly to keep their body and soul together. Many "fasts unto death" are however genuine. Token fasts, that is, fasts for a few hours (four or, say, six) are easier to undertake and the participants can, and do, manage to sit in "dharna" for short periods without food or water. But I wish to focus attention on the general futility of such exercises and the damage to public interest done in this manner. Many of the participants are employees of government or semi-government offices. Their abstention from work for several days means considerable delay in the disposal of pending public business. Office files pile up during the periods of their protests in tents or their pen-down strikes. Their parents feel much worried on account of the fasts of their sons and daughters. The protesters also create a law and order problem. In my opinion, those who have grievances should resort to negotiations, make emphatic representations to their seniors and seek redress through lawful means, instead of making a nuisance of themselves. I see no reason why these forms of protests should not be declared illegal.

Mr B Sir, it seems to me that my predecessor is himself comfortably placed in a cushy job or some

business and has no sympathy at all with those who have genuine, prolonged grievances and have been suffering for years. The fact is that in many government departments there are supersessions, denial of regular and sanctioned pay scales, arbitrary decisions under cover of maintaining discipline and expediting disposal of business. Many employees are harassed by their seniors day after day and they have no alternative but to adopt open protest tactics to focus attention on their just grievances, say in respect of suspensions, dismissals, official refusal to revise salary grades, unfair, discriminatory treatment, arbitrary decisions, unwarranted punishments, etc. The heartless administrators do not listen to people's grievances in the normal course. They wake up to prolonged grievances and injustices only when loud demonstrations are staged, processions taken out, fasts undertaken by the aggrieved employees, their sympathisers and those whose careers are threatened by thoughtless orders and ill-conceived policy pronouncements. Let me quote a couple of instances. There have been self-immolations, much destruction of property (such as burning of buses, even of trains), "gheraos", bandhs, which caused much financial loss to business and industry, prolonged closure of schools and colleges. The loss of education of thousands of school and college students, even the possible loss of a whole academic year "zero year" seem to matter little to the demonstrators, hunger-strikers, disruptors of the education system and other trouble makers, at least some of them professional mischief-mongers, hired for causing disrupting the system. The ruffians and hired trouble-makers should of

course be dealt with firmly (they are enemies of society and virtual criminals) and put in jail for long terms. But those who launch a campaign in pursuit of an ideology or a purely religious cause through "yatras", peaceful processions and "raths" should not be regarded as objectionable. After all, ours is a democracy. Everyone is entitled to have his say, against alleged injustices, lodge a protest in a peaceful manner and pursue his case. I think, therefore, that any move to ban such peaceful actions as token fasts, "yatras", etc, should not be declared unlawful.

Mr C My friend Mr B is free to defend the protesters, the demonstrators and the hunger strikers, but he has not offered any convincing defence of the implicit and virtually unlimited waste of precious time, public money, the heavy burden on the community by way of more taxes to make up the loss incurred through the destruction of public property such as government buildings, office records, government vehicles, buses and the incalculable loss to students as a result of the closure of educational institutions for long periods. In the case of "yatras" the participants seem to have mixed politics with religion. Political games have been, and still are, being played with religious enthusiasm and misplaced zeal which could be utilised for constructive purposes. I feel that what the country suffers from is a sense of irresponsibility, insincerity, callousness, disregard of the public interest, sacrifice of the interests of society for petty and temporary gains of some sort. According to a public analyst, the battle for political power with well-decorated, comfortable chariots had started even before the last general election held in November, 1989. Telegu Desam leader, Mr N.T. Rama Rao, the "god-like hero once worshipped by lakhs of people and respected like an idol in Andhra Pradesh", used an impres-

sive chariot to carry on his electoral and other campaign. Then the Haryana leader, Mr Devi Lal, used a well decorated "rath" for his political campaign. A particular party played the religious card to gain political ends. There was widespread communal trouble in several towns of U.P., Gujarat, Bihar and elsewhere, in the wake of the recent "Rath Yatra" to Ayodhya. There was much tension and normal life was disrupted for several days. About a year ago, the Union Government and the State administrations enthusiastically arranged "runs" by people young and old. The running was described as a symbol of nationalist sentiments. Each runner boasted that he was "running for his country". What did the exercise achieve, apart from providing some physical exercise and increasing blood circulation for a few minutes? Besides, experience has shown that in course of time provocative slogans are raised; there are counter slogans by the rivals sitting on the sidelines and sniping. Then follow clashes of some kind, and at times such clashes become violent, resulting in police firing and casualties. Self-immolations by young boys and girls became a trend in August, September and October this year. Imagine the plight of parents whose sons and daughters thus killed themselves out of mistaken enthusiasm and misplaced zeal. Have their fiery protests achieved the purpose they had in view? Certainly not. The country as a whole was the loser, much money and assets were wasted.

Mr D Sir, the harsh reality is that ours is a sick society, comprising numerous frustrated, disillusioned and disappointed groups of people, young and old. The elements are brimming with vigour and energy. Though often mistaken, they make full use of it. How can you suppress them and deny them the right of protest against injustice and discriminatory treatment? Just as parents

can be squarely blamed for the criminal behaviour of their sons (young boys turn criminals because of poor training and unhealthy, quarrelsome atmosphere at home), similarly employers, heads of departments and other institutions can be held to account for the unethical conduct of their employees in the shape of hunger strikes, loud demonstrations, and processions in the streets, rallies and chain fasts. If the employers and heads of departments treat their staff fairly and courteously, there would be little dissatisfaction among the staff and hence little dislocation of work through various protests. It is essentially a case of cause and effect; every ugly act has a cause and some provocation. The basic causes of unrest, of grievances, complaints and protests need to be studied dispassionately and appropriate corrective action taken well in time. My fear is that if a ban is imposed on protests and any form of hostile expression, there would be even more trouble. "Morchas" and chain fasts would then be started against such a ban, and the people generally would demand the right to protest against certain policies and decisions. In the USA and Britain, the people have full right of peaceful protests for, or against, a cause. We often hear of peaceful demonstrations and silent marches by aggrieved people carrying placards to highlight their cause. They make their point, hand over a representation to the President or his Secretary and then disperse without causing any disruption or loss of public property. That is the democratic way of doing things which should be the rule in India. Since social and economic justice is difficult to ensure in large countries because of the complexities and the greed of some individuals, the mistaken zeal of others, occasional demonstrations against the implicit injustices are common. Even in dictatorships like that of USSR there are protests against high prices, lack of essential supplies, etc. Why should people in free India be denied an elementary right?

Special Feature on TEST OF REASONING

SYLLOGISM

These are mostly 'power tests', measuring the ability to reason, to plan, to organise, to analyse and synthesise etc. There are problems to solve, which require higher levels of thinking on the part of the candidates.

By having a lot of practice in tackling such questions, you will be able to see through reasoning yourself and get the right answer.

The term 'Syllogism' is a combination of two Greek words, the prefix syl, a representation of Greek 'syn' in English, meaning before and 'logos' which is an expression for the inward thought based on reason, proportion and calculation. Thus, syllogism consists of statements followed by conclusions based on them and it is the candidate's task to see them in their true perspective, weigh them with his/her power of reasoning, comprehend them according to their major and minor importance and then reach the final decision. The syllogism based tests may be categorized as follows:

TYPE I

In this category a situation is explained in two or more sentences followed by a conclusion, and you have to judge whether the conclusion is right, wrong, long drawn or doubtful one. Let us take a few examples:

- A. 1. Man has five fingers.
2. Monkey has five fingers.

Conclusion: A monkey is a man.

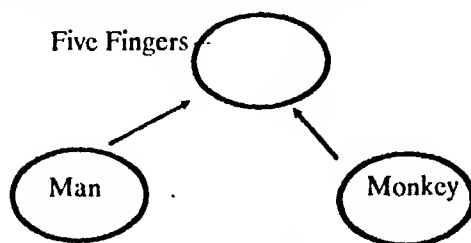
- B. 1. Human beings have five fingers.
2. X is a man.

Conclusion: X has five fingers.

- C. 1. X is a human being.
2. X has five fingers.

Conclusion: Human beings have five fingers.

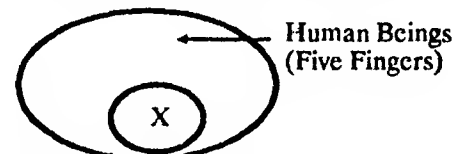
Now, in example A, two entirely different identities have one common factor and to consider them as one or identical on the basis of that one common factor would be wrong, hence the conclusion drawn is wrong.



EXAMPLE A

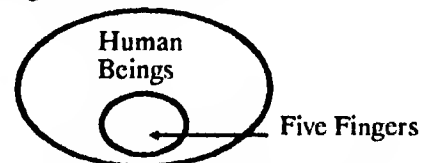
In example B, a universal fact or trait has been stated about a certain species so every member belonging to that

species would have that certain trait, hence the conclusion drawn necessarily follows, as it is based on inference.



EXAMPLE B

Example C states a certain trait of one particular member of a species and a general conclusion about the whole species is drawn so the conclusion is by generalisation and is rather long drawn.



EXAMPLE C

There are other ways of explaining a situation too.

Examples:

- A. 1. Children generally like sweets.
2. Pinky is a child.

Conclusion: Pinky likes sweets.

- B. 1. The Kapoors often go for outings on Sundays.
2. Tomorrow is Sunday.

Conclusion: The Kapoors will go for an outing.

Here the words 'generally' and 'often' leave a wide margin for exceptions as they have quite a considerable amount of uncertainty. Hence the conclusion drawn is doubtful.

TYPE II

These include two statements followed by two conclusions and you have to judge which of them follows from the statements. These statements are usually absolutely ridiculous and confusing as they are at variance with commonly accepted facts. The best way to be sure of the answer and get the right solution is by drawing diagrams as has been shown in the examples given below:

Examples:

- A. 1. All aeroplanes (A) are buses (B)
2. All buses (B) are carts (C)

There are two possibilities I and II.

i.e. either they all have the same number or the other way as shown in figure

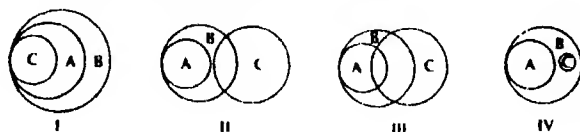
II. So if the conclusion is

- I. Some carts are buses; it is right, but
II. All carts are buses; would be wrong.

Many sets can be made as shown below and the figures denote the possible arrangements:



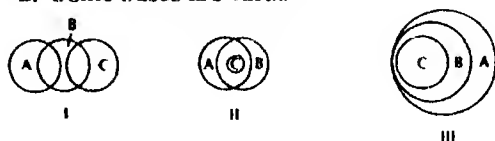
- B. 1. All aeroplanes are buses.
2. Some buses are carts.



- C. 1. Some aeroplanes are buses.
2. All buses are carts.



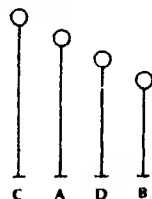
- D. 1. Some aeroplanes are buses.
2. Some buses are carts.



There are other types of questions as well:

Example:

1. A is taller than B but shorter than C.
2. D is taller than B but shorter than A.



TYPE III

Another device for testing logical reasoning in candidates is the argumentative questions. In such type, a question is followed by two arguments, generally one is in confirmation starting with 'Yes' and the other argument opposes it starting with a 'No'. In answering such questions, one should be absolutely sure about the force the argument has. The arguments based on assumptions and generation, related trivial aspects or related indirectly to the question have less force than the direct reasoning or to the point arguments. Before deciding your choice, be sure which of the arguments is absolutely specific and 'strong' and has no ambiguity or side-tracking like 'weak' arguments. Let us look at the example given below. The arguments could be any from the sets.

Example: Should ruthless murderers be hanged?

Arguments (in favour):

1. Yes, the law says so.
(Based on hearsay or assumed)
2. Yes, murderers are hanged in all countries.
(Generalization)
3. Yes, if they were to serve a life sentence, they would occupy a cell for twenty years.
(Trivial aspect)

4. Yes, otherwise the hangman would lose his job.
(Related indirectly)
5. Yes, such murderers are a menace to the society and must be hanged for their ruthless crime as an example to others
(Right and strong)

(Negative arguments):

1. No, gas chamber is more comfortable than a rope around one's neck.
(Based on ambiguity)
2. No, so many societies in the world have protested against capital punishment.
(Not specific)
3. No, the judge, whose verdict causes death to the accused is a killer too.
(side-tracking)
4. No, death sentence is wrong on human grounds. As one cannot give life to others, one has no right to take it either.
(Strong and to the point)

There are certain questions which have no answer and cannot be solved by arguments.

Example: A barber shaves all those and only those who do not shave themselves. Will he shave himself?

TYPE IV

In this type, a statement or an assumption is followed by a certain number of reasons or implications. Sometimes more than one choice appear to be correct but you have to pick up the most appropriate one.

Example: A dwarf living on 36th floor gets into an automatic lift, presses the right button, comes to the ground floor and goes to his office; in the evening, while coming up in the lift, he gets down on the twenty-sixth floor and goes up the remaining flight of stairs on foot.

The reasons for his getting down on the 26th floor:

- (a) He wants to keep himself fit and trim.
- (b) He visits a friend on the 26th floor.
- (c) There is a restaurant over there and he goes for a bite.
- (d) His hand cannot reach above the 26th button in the automatic lift.

Here a, b and c could apply to anyone but the subject being a dwarf, only d is correct.

Example: The Commander did not want to attack his alert and equally powerful enemy during the day.

The implications for this could be as follows:

- (a) His soldiers were too tired during the day.
- (b) He was waiting for help from the Headquarters.
- (c) He wanted to catch the enemy unawares.
- (d) The darkness of the night would act as cover while advancing.

Here too the last implication is the strongest.

TYPE V

Another way of testing the power of reasoning is by giving a passage followed by certain conclusions which could be true, probably true, doubtful, probably false or definitely false. The inference is to be made by weighing

all the pros and cons of the conclusion and then reach the final decision.

Example: Suppose the passage includes the following lines:

"When the poor old woman reached the hospital, the doctor realized that she had brain tumour and needed an immediate operation but he did not tell this to the woman, he just gave her some free medicines, mostly pain killers and sent her home."

Conclusions:

- (a) The doctor was not faithful to his profession.
(Probably wrong as his action has a justification)
- (b) He knew the woman could not afford the expenses of an operation.
(Probably true, otherwise he would have suggested the operation)
- (c) The doctor was kind-hearted.
(True, as he gave free medicines to the old woman)

Thus we see that the Tests of Reasoning just need a probing into the problem, applying logic, leaving no latitude for supposition, being specific and then reaching the right conclusion.

Practice Tests

TYPE I

In the following statements, a situation is explained in a few sentences, followed by a conclusion. You have to say whether:

- (a) conclusion necessarily follows from the statements.
- (b) conclusion is only a long drawn one.
- (c) conclusion definitely does not follow from the statements.
- (d) conclusion drawn is doubtful.

Note: Your answer should be only in the light of statements given.

Statements:

- (1) 1. Early rising is good for health.
- 2. Hanif generally rises early in the morning.

Conclusion: Therefore Hanif has good health.

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐

Statements:

- (2) 1. Mental troubles increase during hot season.
- 2. Months of May and June are very hot.

Conclusion: The number of mental cases is more during May and June than in other months.

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐

Statements:

- (3) 1. Maximum growth of the brain takes place during the first few years of the child.
- 2. Protein diet is helpful for the growth of the brain.

Conclusion: Mental deficiency occurs during early years of the child.

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐

Statements:

- (4) 1. Clouds are formed in the higher regions.

- 2. Mountains are high.

Conclusion: Therefore there is more rain on the mountains.

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐

Statements:

- (5) 1. In summer the nights are generally cool and the days are hot.
- 2. June is a hot month.

Conclusion: On the 22nd of June, the night will be cool.

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐

Statements:

- (6) 1. Metals are generally malleable and ductile.
- 2. The substance 'X' is neither malleable nor ductile.

Conclusion: So 'X' is not a metal.

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐

Statements:

- (7) 1. People living in cold countries generally have white complexion.
- 2. Canada is a cold country.

Conclusion: All Canadians have white complexion.

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐

Statements:

- (8) 1. Mammals suckle their young ones.
- 2. Rabbit suckles its young ones.

Conclusion: Rabbit is a mammal.

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐

Statements:

- (9) 1. Cones in the retina help one to see in the dark.
- 2. Rods in the retina help one to see.
- 3. Ramu has cones in the retina.

Conclusion: Ramu has a poor eye-sight.

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐

Statements:

- (10) 1. Students who work regularly pass the examination.
- 2. Students who work hard also, do pass the examination.
- 3. Sham worked regularly.
- 4. Ram worked hard.

Conclusion: Both must have passed the examination.

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐

Statements:

- (11) 1. All boys in the hostel get up at 5 A.M.
- 2. Hamid is a boy.

Conclusion: Therefore Hamid gets up at 5 A.M.

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐

Statements:

- (12) 1. All offices are closed on Saturday.
- 2. Renu is an assistant in an office.
- 3. It is a Saturday to-day.

Conclusion: Therefore Renu will not go to office today.

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐

Statements:

- (13) 1. The sum of the angles of a triangle is 180 degrees.
2. ABC is a right angled triangle with right angle at point A.

Conclusion: Angle B is of 45 degrees.

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐

Statements:

- (14) 1. School children of this school reach there at 10 A.M.
2. There are four schools in this locality.
3. Gita is a school-child.

Conclusion: Therefore Gita reaches her school at 10 A.M.

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐

Statements:

- (15) 1. Mangoes are generally sweet.
2. Oranges are generally sour.
3. Mangoes are always sweeter than oranges.

Conclusion: So the mangoes of my garden are sweet.

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐

Statements:

- (16) 1. All flowers have fragrance.
2. Fragrance comes from petals.

Conclusion: Therefore all flowers have petals.

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐

Statements:

- (17) 1. Some trees are tall.
2. All tall trees are poplar trees.

Conclusion: Therefore all trees are poplar trees.

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐

Statements:

- (18) 1. Vitamins are good for health.
2. Fruits may contain Vitamins.
3. Vegetables may also contain Vitamins.
4. Apples are fruits.
5. Turnips are vegetables.

Conclusion: Therefore those having weak health should take bananas and peas.

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐

Statements:

- (19) 1. Ram is better than Sham in studies.
2. Sham has same height as Mohan.
3. Mohan and Sham are equal in studies.

Conclusion: Therefore Ram has same height as Sham.

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐

Statements:

- (20) 1. Morning walk is good for health.
2. People who go for morning walk are generally healthy.
3. Bhatti generally goes for morning walk.

Conclusion: Therefore Bhatti is healthy.

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐

Statements:

- (21) 1. Many smugglers gave up their underworld profession at the call of late Shri J.P. Narayan.
2. Some of them invested their money in industries.
3. Dhani Ram, an industrialist, often visited J.P.

Conclusion: Dhani Ram was connected with smuggling.

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐

Statements:

- (22) 1. Most of the tribals have started sending their children to schools.
2. The Integrated Rural Development Programme is supplying them with some of the useful amenities.

Conclusion: The tribal awakening is in process.

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐

Statements:

- (23) 1. S.D. Burman was one of the most popular music directors.
2. His son R.D. Burman is also a very popular music director.

Conclusion: R.D. Burman's son will also be a famous music director.

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐

Statements:

- (24) 1. Cigarette smoking often causes cancer.
2. It also affects the respiratory system.

Conclusion: Cigarette smoking is injurious to health.

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐

Statements:

- (25) 1. True art has power to move.
2. Music often moves listeners.

Conclusion: Music is an art.

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐

Statements:

- (26) 1. Several 'Olympic Games - 1984' records were broken in the 'Friendship - 1984' games in Moscow.
2. X was declared the best runner in the 100 metres race in Moscow.

Conclusion: X must have broken the 'Olympic Games 1984' record set in Los Angeles.

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐

Statements:

- (27) 1. Team A has won the first game in the finals of Badminton.
2. Team B has won the second game.
3. Team A has won the third game.

Conclusion: Team B will win the fourth game.

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐

Statements:

- (28) 1. Some of the 'Trans-Himalayan trekkers' suffer from high-altitude sickness.
2. Some voyagers get sea-sick.

Conclusion: Only those suffer from high-altitude sickness who get sea-sick during voyages.

(a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐

Statements:

- (29) 1. U.G.C. has a scheme for coaching some of the weaker sections of the society.
2. Some of the remote villages in deserts have no educational facilities.

Conclusion: They would be helped by the U.G.C.

(a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐

Statements:

- (30) 1. Heavy downpour always paralyses the affected area.
2. Delhi had a very heavy shower on August 23.

Conclusion: Life in the city remained normal.

(a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐

Statements:

- (31) 1. During volcanic eruptions, molten lava oozes out in a stream.
2. The lava comes from under the crust of the earth.

Conclusion: The inside of the earth must be very hot.

(a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐

Statements:

- (32) 1. Farewells are usually painful.
2. Sometimes they are a source of relief.
3. Mr X has just said good bye to Mr Y.

Conclusion: Mr Y must be very sad.

(a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐

Statements:

- (33) 1. In every profession, there are some people who cannot be trusted.
2. Mahesh is a doctor by profession.

Conclusion: Mahesh is not trustworthy.

(a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐

Statements:

- (34) 1. Romeo and Juliet died for each other.
2. Laila and Majnu also met the same end.

Conclusion: Love never has a happy ending.

(a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐

Statements:

- (35) 1. Mahatma Gandhi was born on 2nd October.
2. Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri was also born on 2nd October.

Conclusion: All the children, born on Oct 2, are bound to be greatmen.

(a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐

Statements:

- (36) 1. Free gifts increased the sale of a shampoo last year.
2. With every pack of a certain talcum powder, the company is offering a pencil.

Conclusion: This scheme will increase the sale.

(a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐

Statements:

- (37) 1. Ants crawl over refuse, filth and sewage.
2. They also crawl over food.

Conclusion: Ants must be instrumental in spreading diseases like typhoid, dysentery and tuberculosis etc.

(a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐

Statements:

- (38) 1. Moles are either present at birth or develop during childhood.
2. Moles are not hereditary.
3. Shambhu has a mole behind his ear.

Conclusion: Shambhu's father must be having a mole in the same place.

(a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐

Statements:

- (39) 1. Cars often run out of petrol on the way.
2. Sometimes they have a flat tyre.

Conclusion: One should check the petrol, air and the extra tyre before making a journey by car.

(a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐

Statements:

- (40) 1. Mr Gupta is a man of very modest income.
2. He wants his children to be well-educated.

Conclusion: He will send them to the most expensive and sophisticated school in the district.

(a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐

ANSWERS AND EXPLANATIONS

1. (d) The word 'generally' in the 2nd statement makes the conclusion doubtful.
2. (a) The two statements directly lead to the conclusion.
3. (c) The conclusion has no connection with the two given statements.
4. (b) The conclusion is a long drawn one. A positive relationship between clouds and rain is not indicated by any given sentence.
5. (d) The conclusion drawn is doubtful. The word 'generally' in the 1st statement makes the conclusion doubtful.
6. (d) The conclusion drawn is doubtful again, because of the word 'generally', which allows some scope for metals not necessarily to have these properties.
7. (d) The conclusion drawn is doubtful again, because of the word 'generally', which allows some scope for Canadians not to have white complexion.
8. (a) The conclusion does follow from the two given statements.
9. (c) The conclusion drawn is wrong. There is nothing in the statements to draw such a conclusion.
10. (d) We are not clear whether Shyam worked hard too and Ram worked regularly as well. So we can't be sure of their success.
11. (c) Because nowhere it is said that Hamid is a hostler.
12. (a) Because Renu is an assistant in the office and all

- offices are closed on Saturdays.
13. (d) Angle B can only be 45° , if angle C is of 45° . So the conclusion drawn is doubtful.
 14. (c) It is not clear from the statements whether Gita belongs to that particular school. So the conclusion does not follow from the given statements.
 15. (c) The conclusion does not at all follow from the statements.
 16. Since according to the assumption 'all flowers have fragrance coming from petals' – petals must be there. So (a) is correct.
 17. It is 'all trees' but not 'all poplar trees'. So the conclusion is not correct. Hence, the answer is (c).
 18. Banana is one type of fruit and peas are one type of vegetable. So the conclusion is only a long-drawn one. Hence (b) is the answer.
 19. Mohan has same height as Sham and not Ram and Sham. So the conclusion is wrong. (c) is the answer.
 20. The word 'generally' makes the conclusion 'doubtful'. Hence (d) is the answer.
 21. (c) There is nothing in the statements to confirm the conclusion.
 22. (a) The conclusion follows the statements.
 23. (b) It is only an implication.
 24. (a) Both the statements lead to the given conclusion.
 25. (a) The conclusion follows the statements.
 26. (d) It is not confirmed and yet there is a possibility.
 27. (c) The conclusion does not follow from the statement.
 28. (c) There is nothing in the statement to reach such conclusion.
 29. (d) The phrase 'some of the' makes the conclusion drawn doubtful.
 30. (c) The conclusion drawn is entirely wrong.
 31. (a) The conclusion follows from the statements.
 32. (d) The word 'usually' makes the conclusion doubtful.
 33. (c) The statements do not categorize Mahesh.
 34. (b) Two examples are not sufficient for generalization.
 35. (b) Same as above.
 36. (b) The statements do not mention quality or item.
 37. (a) The conclusion is absolutely natural.
 38. (c) The second statement contradicts the conclusion.
 39. (a) The conclusion follows from the statements.
 40. (d) Mr Gupta has to see his means.

TYPE II

At the end of each paragraph some conclusions have been drawn. On the basis of the study of the paragraph, the candidates have to mark the answers as under:

- A. Definitely true
- B. Probably true
- C. Can't say
- D. Probably false
- E. Definitely false

I

Blood flow in human or animal body is indeed complex due to very complicated structure and function of

blood and blood vessels. However, the structure and function of blood as well as blood vessels including the various aspects of blood flow are widely used for the diagnosis of pathological pattern in human or animal physiology.

1. Blood is composed of many chemicals.
A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐
2. The composition of blood helps in the diagnosis of various ailments.
A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐
3. Various aspects of blood flow are important for diagnosis.
A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐
4. In man the blood flow system is very simple.
A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐
5. Pathological pattern of a disease is very much understood from the examination of the blood.
A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐

II

This wisdom with which the voter uses his ballot is determined by his individual intelligence and how well he keeps himself informed on public affairs. The free and uncensored flow of information in a country is a fundamental of its democracy and of unestimable aid to its voters. While an individual news organ may take a position on one side or the other of a public question on the editorial page, the tradition of the country's press has been to confine news columns to matters of fact.

6. Free flow of information helps a voter to exercise his vote judiciously.
A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐
7. The news-papers affect the voting behaviour of voters.
A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐
8. Editorial page decides the fate of a public question.
A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐
9. Intelligence of the voter fully determines how the voter casts his vote.
A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐
10. In a democracy the information supplied in the news-papers should not be censored.
A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐

III

An important feature of 'education as experience' is learning through concrete situations of life, activities, problems or the projects, that is the educand's participation in the physical environment and the social consciousness of the community around him. Learning under such conditions becomes spontaneous as well as purposeful. Education, therefore, should provide proper situations or activities conducive for the acquisition of experience by the learner.

11. Education should be imparted in good classrooms.
A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐
12. Education means passing through concrete situa-

tions of life.

A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐

13. Learning through participation is better than learning through books.

A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐

14. Providing of right experiences conducive to learning is the task of education.

A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐

15. Learning generally takes place through trial and error.

A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐

IV

Most people accept the proposition that vigorous exercise improves strength and stamina, and provides an overall sense of well-being. Such exercise produces physiological changes that are clearly beneficial. The activities associated with these benefits fall into the category called aerobic exercise, exercise that can be sustained for long periods without building oxygen debt in the muscle. Such activities involve rhythmic and vigorous contraction and relaxation of the large muscles and lead to a condition called fitness.

Do these changes promote long life? No one can prove it.

(Gilmore)

16. Aerobic exercise leads to physical fitness.

A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐

17. Regular exercise prolongs life.

A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐

18. There are some who have no faith in exercise.

A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐

19. Aerobic exercise can only be continued for a very short period.

A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐

20. Only those die young who take no exercise at all.

A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐

V

"When I look back on the process of history, when I survey the genesis of America, I see this written over every page that the nations are renewed from the bottom, not from the top, that the genius which springs up from the ranks of the unknown men is the genius which renews the youth and the energy of the people."

(Woodrow Wilson, U.S. President)

21. President Woodrow Wilson was a scholar of history.

A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐

22. No leader was ever born in the top class.

A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐

23. Nations are not renewed from the top.

A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐

24. Most of the leaders today were common unknown men.

A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐

25. People belonging to the ranks of the unknown lot have no genius among them.

A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐

VI

We are privileged to live in an age when as the result of the hard labours and the genius of man, a new world is opened up for our study, a fascinating, vibrant, sub-visible world hidden from the eyes of human beings, a world of microbes. Since man viewed these interesting micro-organisms, or germs, much has been sacrificed including the very lives of some of the microbe hunters who attempted to ferret out the mysteries of these minute forms of life.

(Stanley E. Wedberg)

26. All men who studied microbes lost their lives in experimenting with them.

A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐

27. Micro-organisms cannot be seen with bare eyes.

A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐

28. Our age is wonderful because germs have been discovered.

A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐

29. Microbe hunters sacrificed their lives for serving humanity.

A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐

VII

"Cartooning is a fairly sort of proposition. You have to be fairly intelligent—if you were really intelligent, you'd be something else. You have to draw fairly well—if you drew really well, you'd be a painter. You have to write fairly well—if you wrote really well, you'd be writing books. It's great for a fairly person like me."

(Charlie Schulz)

30. A cartoonist has to be an excellent painter.

A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐

31. Cartooning is only for fairly people.

A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐

32. All intelligent persons are writers.

A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐

33. A very talented person should not choose cartooning as a profession.

A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐

34. Those who write extremely well, write books.

A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐

VIII

Having a lot of money is not being civilized. A man who has all the wealth and luxury at his command may be miles away from culture and the term 'civilized'. On the other hand, some intellectual, living in a remote slum may enrich the civilization through his precious contribution and may be thoroughly cultured and civilized.

35. All rich men are uncivilized.

A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐

36. The rich never contribute to civilization.

A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐

37. Money is no standard for judging 'culture' and civilization.

A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐

38. People living in slums are highly cultured.

A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐

39. All people living in slums contribute towards

civilization.

A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐

IX

Noise levels particularly in the urban sector, have increased phenomenally over the last few decades. It has an adverse effect on health, work efficiency and create tension by interfering with speech communication at the place of work, the class room, and recreational areas. It may cause a temporary or permanent loss of hearing. Noise resembles fear reaction, as a result of which it induces increase in metabolism, causes quickened heart rate, raises blood pressure and causes rapid stomach contraction.

40. Rural areas are adversely affected by noise.

A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐

41. Noise affects adversely the health of people.

A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐

42. Blood pressure is generally caused by noise.

A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐

43. Hearing loss is always due to noise.

A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐

X

In the sphere of education, in order to foster awareness and understanding of the impact of ecological interdependence, environment education should be made compulsory in the curricula of colleges and schools, starting from the primary level. This education, while catering to students, should also be imparted to adults and professionals whose activities are directly concerned with the preservation, improvement and quality of the environment.

44. Environment education should be included in the curriculum of the primary education.

A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐

45. In the environment there is interdependence of human life and animal life.

A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐

46. Education should lead to character building.

A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐

47. Environment education should be given to all adults.

A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐

48. There are certain things in nature which do not fall within the ecological interdependence.

A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐

ANSWERS AND EXPLANATIONS

1. C. On the basis of the information given in the paragraph, we cannot say so.
2. A. It is clearly said in the paragraph.
3. A. It is indicated towards the end of the paragraph.
4. E. It is just the opposite of what is said in the paragraph.
5. B. It is probably true but this is not applicable to all sorts of diseases.
6. A. It is clearly stated in the paragraph.
7. C. We can't say this on the basis of the information given in the paragraph.

8. B. It is not clearly stated in so many words.

9. B. It is probably true but other factors also play their part.

10. E. This is nowhere said in the paragraph.

11. C. This point is not discussed in the paragraph.

12. A. This is exactly what the paragraph indicates.

13. A. It is what is said in the paragraph.

14. A. It is clearly indicated in the paragraph.

15. E. Nowhere in the paragraph such a statement is made.

16. A 17. E 18. B 19. C

20. D 21. B 22. D 23. A

24. E 25. C 26. C 27. A

28. E 29. B 30. D 31. A

32. C 33. B 34. B 35. D

36. C 37. A 38. C 39. D

40. E. It is the urban area which is affected by noise and nowhere it is said about rural areas.

41. A. It is given in the passage.

42. C. The word 'generally' makes it doubtful.

43. E. Nowhere such an assertive conclusion has been drawn.

44. A. The para does recommend that environment education should be made compulsory in the curricula of colleges and schools, starting from the *primary level*. Hence the statement is definitely true.

45. C. Nowhere in the paragraph has this been said in such clear terms. There is only a mention of ecological interdependence which has not been spelled out further.

46. E. It does not follow from the paragraph at all.

47. B. We are not sure that all adults are connected with the preservation, improvement and quality of the environment. So, we cannot be definite.

48. D. It seems to be a vague statement.

TYPE III

In each question given below, statement(s) is/are given followed by two conclusions numbered I and II. You have to take the given statement(s) to be true even if it/they seem to be at variance from commonly known facts and then decide for each of the given conclusions whether they logically follow from the given statement(s), disregarding commonly known facts. Then decide which of the answers numbered A, B, C, D, E is correct answer.

- A. Only I follows.
- B. Only II follows.
- C. Both I and II follow.
- D. Either I or II follows.
- E. Neither I nor II follows.

Statements:

1. At high altitudes there is less oxygen in the air.
Oxygen is necessary for life.

Conclusions:

- I. Oxygen is mixed with Nitrogen.
- II. One needs supplementing oxygen supply for living at high altitudes.

A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐

Statements:

2. One should not jump out of the train when it is in motion.
If one runs along the moving train for some time while getting down, one does not generally fall down.

Conclusions:

- I. He jumped out of the moving train and fell down.
II. He jumped out, ran along for some time and got down safely.

A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐

Statements:

3. If a body is moving it will continue moving in the same direction unless some force is applied to stop it.
If you apply brakes suddenly while your scooter is moving fast.

Conclusions:

- I. You will fall ahead.
II. You will fall back.

A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐

Statements:

4. Uncasy lies the head that wears the crown.
The Head enjoys a number of privileges.

Conclusions:

- I. One should not head an institution.
II. One should always try to be the head of an institution.

A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐

Statements:

5. Intelligent people have great insight.
'X' is able to see through things very quickly.

Conclusions:

- I. 'X' is intelligent.
II. 'X' has great insight.

A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐

Statements:

6. 'A' is a friend of 'B'.
'B' is a friend of 'C'.

Conclusions:

- I. A, B and C are friends.
II. A is a friend of 'C'.

A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐

Statements:

7. Life means stresses and strains.
Stresses and strains have an adverse effect on life.

Conclusions:

- I. Life is not worth living.
II. One should avoid stresses and strains in life.

A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐

Statements:

8. Air is a mixture of Oxygen and Nitrogen.

Oxygen is about 1/5th of Nitrogen.

Conclusions:

- I. Oxygen combines with Nitrogen to give oxides of Nitrogen.

- II. Oxides of Nitrogen are of many kinds.

A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐

Statements:

9. Fish live in water.

Amphibians live both in water and on land.

Conclusions:

- I. Therefore Fish and Amphibians belong to the same family.

- II. They both can live in water.

A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐

Statements:

10. Most of the varieties of snakes are non-poisonous.
Cobra is a poisonous snake.

Conclusions:

- I. Anti-snake venom injection should always be given in case of snake-bite.

- II. Anti-snake venom injection should not be given in case of non-poisonous snake-bite.

A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐

Statements:

11. Metals expand on heating.

'X' substance catches fire when heated strongly.

Conclusions:

- I. 'X' substance may be a metal.

- II. 'X' substance cannot be a metal.

A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐

Statements:

12. Evaporation causes cooling.

Cow's milk is very cold.

Conclusions:

- I. Some of this milk must have evaporated.

- II. Cows yield very cold milk.

A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐

Statements:

13. All of my relatives are very good looking.

'X' is a very good looking fellow.

Conclusions:

- I. 'X' must be my relative.

- II. 'X' can be anyone.

A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐

Statements:

14. Vegetables are good for health.

Cheese is not a vegetable.

Conclusions:

- I. Cheese is not good for health.

- II. Some non-vegetables may also be good for health.

A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐

Statements:

15. It is easier to speak in one's native language.

One has to work hard to acquire efficiency in

foreign languages.

Conclusions:

- I. It is easier to learn one's native language.
 - II. It is more difficult to learn a foreign language.
- A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐

Statements:

- 16. At high altitudes the pressure of air is less.
- Grams get boiled at a high temperature.

Conclusions:

- I. At a high peak one must use a pressure cooker to boil grams.
 - II. Grams are good to eat.
- A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐

Statements:

- 17. Ram gets up early in the morning and goes for a walk.
- Sham also gets up early in the morning but does not go for a walk.

Conclusions:

- I. In one respect they are similar.
 - II. In the other respect they are dissimilar.
- A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐

Statements:

- 18. His brother is a good cricketer.
- He is a good hockey player.
- His sister is a good singer.

Conclusions:

- I. They are all talented.
 - II. They are all sportsmen.
- A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐

Statements:

- 19. Oxygen and Hydrogen are gases.
- Nitrogen is also a gas
- Air contains 1 part of Oxygen and 4 parts of Nitrogen.

Conclusions:

- I. Air is a gas.
 - II. Air is a mixture of gases.
- A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐

Statements:

- 20. A is brother of B.
- C is brother of A.

Conclusions:

- I. B is a girl.
 - II. B is a boy.
- A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐

Statements:

- 21. Air is a bad conductor of heat.
- Cotton is also a bad conductor of heat.

Conclusions:

- I. Quilts contain cotton as well as air to enable us to keep ourselves warm.
- II. Well rolled cotton is better than fluffy cotton in quilts because it enables us to keep ourselves warmer.

A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐

Statements:

- 22. Morning fresh air is good for health.
- To look at greenery is good for eyes.

Conclusions:

- I. One should be courteous to others.
 - II. One should go for a walk in the garden in the morning.
- A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐

Statements:

- 23. Sunlight is a very good source of energy.
- There is a great need for solar energy.

Conclusions:

- I. Energy can also be obtained from other sources.
 - II. Coal is a very good source of energy.
- A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐

Statements:

- 24. He is seriously ill.
- He has been given medicine.

Conclusions:

- I. He will be all right.
 - II. He will expire.
- A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐

Statements:

- 25. His wife is running the ninth month of her pregnancy.
- Any time the delivery is due.

Conclusions:

- I. A baby will be born.
 - II. It may be a son, a daughter or a twin.
- A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐

Statements:

- 26. Vitamin C is good for health.
- Oranges contain Vitamin C.

Conclusions:

- I. We should grow oranges.
 - II. We should take oranges daily.
- A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐

Statements:

- 27. All religions teach brotherhood.
- Religions show path to a higher way of life.

Conclusions:

- I. We should be religious.
 - II. Sectarian religions lead to fanaticism.
- A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐

Statements:

- 28. Conflicts in mind create difficulties.
- Resolution of conflicts leads to good mental health.

Conclusions:

- I. One becomes very hefty and strong by resolving one's conflicts.
- II. Freedom from conflicts leads to good mental health.

A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐

Statements:

29. Games are essential for good physical health.
Hockey and Football are major games.

Conclusions:

- I. For playing major games one needs a strong body.
II. Hockey is a better game than Football.

A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐

Statements:

30. Jagdev is working hard for his I.A.S. competition.
Jagdev can cram facts and figures well.

Conclusions:

- I. It is possible he may succeed.
II. A mere good memory may not help him to succeed in the competition.

A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐

ANSWERS AND EXPLANATIONS

1. (B) Only II statement follows.
2. (D) Both things can't happen simultaneously.
3. (A) Only I is true. Number II is wrong.
4. (D) Only one is possible not both.
5. (C) Both are true.
6. (E) The conclusions are wrong.
7. (B) Only II follows. I is not correct.
8. (E) Both do not follow from the statements.
9. (B) I does not follow but II does.
10. (D) Either I or II follows and not both.
11. (E) The conclusions do not follow from the statements.
12. (E) The conclusions do not follow from the statements.
13. (B) Only the II statement follows.
14. (E) None of the conclusions follows from the statements.
15. (C) Both conclusions follow from the statements.
16. (A) Only conclusion I follows from the statements.
17. (C) Both conclusions follow from the statements.
18. (A) Only the I conclusion follows from the statements.
19. (B) Only the II conclusion follows from the statements.
20. (D) B can either be a boy or a girl.
21. (A) Only I follows; II does not follow because rolled cotton contains less air, so it is not as good a bad conductor as fluffy cotton.
22. (B) Only II follows. I has no relevance to the statements given.
23. (E) The conclusions drawn have no relevance to the statements given.
24. (D) Both cannot follow. Only one of the conclusions can be true.
25. (C) Both conclusions are possible.
26. (C) Both follow from the statements.
27. (A) Only I follows. II conclusion cannot be directly drawn from the statements.
28. (B) Only II follows. It is not necessary that one will

become hefty and strong by resolving conflicts.

29. (E) Both the conclusions have no relevance to the statements given.
30. (D) Because either I follows or II follows.

TYPE IV

In making decisions about important questions it is desirable to be able to distinguish between 'strong' arguments and 'weak' arguments so far as they relate to the question. 'Strong' arguments must be both important and directly related to the question. 'Weak' arguments may not be directly related to the question and may be of minor importance or may be related to the trivial aspects of the question. Each question below is followed by two arguments numbered I and II. You have to decide which of the arguments is 'Strong' and which is 'Weak'. Then decide which of the answers given below numbered (a), (b), (c), (d), (e) is the correct answer.

- (a) Only I is strong.
 - (b) Only II is strong.
 - (c) Both I and II are strong.
 - (d) Either I or II is strong.
 - (e) Neither I nor II is strong.
1. Honesty always pays.
 - I. Amongst dishonest people it may not pay immediately.
 - II. Amongst honest people it does pay immediately.

(a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐
 2. A stitch in time saves nine.
 - I. Yes, it is true that if we rectify the fault immediately, it does not magnify.
 - II. No, why should one worry unnecessarily.

(a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐
 3. Look before you leap.
 - I. If the occasion demands action, it should be started immediately.
 - II. To jump in darkness, is always risky and so one should have a careful look before starting an action.

(a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐
 4. Inter-caste marriages will lead to National Integration.
 - I. Yes, this will lead to intermingling of various castes and thus casteism will disappear.
 - II. This will lead to a lot of maladjustment of married couples, especially when the rituals and dogmas of different castes differ a good deal.

(a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐
 5. If the body is sound, the mind will also be sound.
 - I. Yes, sound mind is found in a sound body.
 - II. Yes, a sound body always has a sound mind.

(a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐
 6. One should eat, drink and be merry because tomorrow one dies.
 - I. No, one should strive to achieve a goal rather than think of death as the goal.
 - II. This philosophy hardly enables us to achieve

- anything.
(a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐
7. Married life is better than unmarried life.
I. Married life enables one to adjust better emotionally.
II. An unmarried person can contribute more to the welfare of the society.
(a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐
8. Traditional culture is better than the new culture.
I. Both have their good points as well as weak points.
II. The new culture is ruining society.
(a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐
9. Every institution should be State-owned.
I. It will kill private enthusiasm.
II. People will not be serious to work hard.
(a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐
10. Hurry does curru.
I. Sometimes a quick action is necessary otherwise the opportunity is lost.
II. Things done in haste lead generally to many errors.
(a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐
11. Should there be internal assessment in colleges?
I. Yes, it will enable the teachers to have a better control over the students.
II. No, since it will encourage favouritism among teachers.
(a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐
12. Should 'Vegetarianism' be preferred to 'Non-vegetarianism'?
I. Yes, it contributes to better health.
II. No, Non-vegetarian diet is better because it is rich in proteins.
(a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐
13. People should not be allowed to beg.
I. Begging lowers the self-esteem of a person.
II. Begging is not good.
(a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐
14. Simple living and high thinking is a good principle of life.
I. This makes one a great person.
II. All great men follow this principle.
(a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐
15. 'A stitch in time saves nine' is a good principle of life.
I. This principle warns us about our future.
II. This principle does not allow the trouble to increase.
(a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐
16. Should there be compulsory military training for all?
I. Yes, this will lead to a better discipline of society.
II. Yes, this will give us a reserve force for the protection of the country.
(a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐
17. Should all sectarian religions be replaced by one

- common religion?
I. Yes, it will lead to a better integration of people.
II. No, because it will lead to chaos.
(a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐
18. Should there be one Government for the whole world?
I. Yes, it will lead to a better control of wars in the world.
II. No, because the weaker nations will be devoured by the stronger nations.
(a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐
19. Should one follow a more or less rigid programme daily?
I. Yes, it will lead to better discipline.
II. No, it will kill creativity in individuals.
(a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐
20. Should all property belong to State?
I. Yes, it will ensure equitable distribution of necessities of life to all.
II. No, it will kill private endeavour.
(a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐
21. Society is responsible for making people criminals.
I. Yes, because the society deprives individuals of their specific needs.
II. No, heredity also is responsible for making individuals criminal.
(a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐
22. Judges have no right to restrict the actions of the police.
I. Crime will diminish, when restrictions on the police are removed.
II. Police are capable of deciding who is a criminal.
(a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐
23. There should be no disparity in pay scales of different jobs requiring equivalent qualifications.
I. This can't be because the nature of work is different from job to job.
II. Yes, because the basic needs of human beings are the same.
(a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐
24. One should not bother as to what is happening in other countries.
I. No, this attitude is not correct, because whatever happens in one part of the world has its repercussions on other parts of the world.
II. This helps one to lead a comfortable life.
(a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐
25. Should violence be depicted in films?
I. Yes, because it makes the films very interesting and useful.
II. No, because this spreads violence.
(a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐
26. Should the specialists administer their departments and not the generalists?
I. Yes, because the specialists know the problems of their departments better.

- II. No, because the specialists are generally poor administrators.
(a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐
27. Should there be a strong World Government?
I. Yes, it will ensure peace in the world.
II. No, individual liberties of people will suffer.
(a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐
28. Should people be allowed to own property or should everything belong to the State?
I. Anyway it is all right.
II. People should be allowed to own property because then they will have a sense of belongingness and will be motivated to work harder.
(a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐
29. A four-wheeler is more stable than a three-wheeler.
I. Because a four-wheeler has four wheels.
II. Because it cannot topple down easily.
(a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐
30. Nuclear families are no better than joint families.
I. Nuclear families are better because they ensure greater freedom.
II. Joint families are better because they ensure greater security.
(a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐
31. Religious leaders in India are responsible for creating communal disharmony.
I. Yes, because they spread hatred for religions other than their own.
II. No, people of different religions don't want to come together.
(a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐
32. The present educational system is defective.
I. Because it is examination ridden.
II. It encourages cram and discourages creativity.
(a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐
33. A judge of the High Court or Supreme Court should not speak in public.
I. This will enable him to remain impartial on controversial issues.
II. The public does not like his speaking in public.
(a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐
34. India is a poor country and therefore should not try to spend too much money on launching of rockets and satellites.
I. Yes, launching them successfully does not in any way help the country.
II. It drains away the meagre resources of the country.
(a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐
35. Standards of our education are going down.
I. Yes, because there is a lot of quantitative expansion.
II. We cannot help it.
(a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐
36. Sanskrit should become the national language of the country.
I. It is our cultural heritage.

- II. It is understood by all the Indians.
(a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐
37. India does not need a large army.
I. It is a peace-loving country.
II. It believes in non-violence.
(a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐
38. Degrees should not be compulsory for jobs.
I. No, they are compulsory, because otherwise it will become very difficult to assess the suitability of candidates for a particular job.
II. Yes, because the employers can have their own selection tests according to their requirements.
(a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐
39. Communal disharmony can be overcome by making religion, everyone's private affair.
I. Religion is one's private way of raising oneself.
II. It will lead to chaos.
(a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐
40. No prizes should be awarded in the schools on the basis of examination results.
I. It will take away a strong incentive to do good work.
II. This will remove jealousy on this score amongst the students.
(a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

ANSWERS AND EXPLANATIONS

1. (c) Both the arguments support the statement.
2. (a) Only I is strong, the second one is hardly an argument in favour.
3. (b) Only II is strong, the first one weakens the proposition.
4. (d) The two arguments are opposed to each other.
5. (e) None of the arguments puts forth any support to the proposition.
6. (c) Both the arguments are strong.
7. (c) Both the arguments, though opposed to each other, yet are strong.
8. (a) Only argument I is strong, the second one is just a biased statement.
9. (c) Both arguments are forceful.
10. (c) Both arguments have points in their favour.
11. (c) Both arguments are strong.
12. (c) Both arguments are weighty.
13. (a) Only I is very strong.
14. (c) Both arguments are strong.
15. (b) Only II is correct and strong.
16. (c) Both arguments are equally strong.
17. (a) Only I is strong. II is only a sweeping statement.
18. (a) Only I is strong. II is vague.
19. (d) Both arguments can't go together.
20. (c) Both arguments are strong.
21. (c) Both arguments are strong.
22. (c) Both arguments are strong.
23. (e) Both arguments are weak.
24. (a) Only argument number one is strong.
25. (d) Both arguments are opposed to each other so either I or II can be strong.

26. (d) Both arguments are opposed to each other.
27. (a) Argument number one only is strong.
28. (b) Argument number two only is strong.
29. (b) Argument number two only is strong.
30. (c) Both arguments are strong.
31. (a) Because argument 1 seems to be strong.
32. (c) Both the arguments are strong.
33. (a) Second one is just a vague statement.
34. (c) Both arguments are strong.
35. (a) Only argument number 1 is strong.
36. (c) Both the arguments are very weak.
37. (c) Both the arguments seem to be weak.
38. (c) Both the arguments seem to be strong.
39. (a) Only 1 is strong.
40. (d) The two views are opposed to each other.

TYPE V

The Proverbs/Statements given at the top of each question are followed by explanations (a), (b), (c) and (d). You have to tick mark the appropriate choice.

Proverb:

1. Brevity is the soul of wit.

Explanations:

- (a) All brave people are witty.
- (b) 'Wit' expressed in a few words is the best.
- (c) Wit is the soul of humour.
- (d) If expressed in short sentences, wit loses its soul.

Proverb:

2. Faint heart never won fair lady.

Explanations:

- (a) Ladies do not like men who have heart trouble.
- (b) Those who faint easily, cannot get beautiful wives.
- (c) If you want to achieve some extraordinary thing you have to be bold.
- (d) Strong men never care for pretty women.

Proverb:

3. Boasters are cousins to liars.

Explanations:

- (a) There is not much of difference between boasting and lying.
- (b) If someone is boasting his cousins must be lying elsewhere.
- (c) If someone lies, his supporters start boasting.
- (d) Boasters are superior to liars.

Proverb:

4. Best time is present time.

Explanations:

- (a) The best time is when one gets presents.
- (b) Present time is the best time because people were not so cultured in the past.
- (c) Present time is at our command.
- (d) Because there might be a nuclear war in future.

Proverb:

5. Better pay the cook than the doctor.

Explanations:

- (a) Cooks get better pay than the doctors.
- (b) Hotels and restaurants are more expensive than hospitals.
- (c) Doctors are already rich so you need not pay them, better pay to your poor cook.
- (d) It is better to keep a good cook and eat good food so that a person may not need a doctor.

Proverb:

6. Every shoe fits not every foot.

Explanations:

- (a) A thing may be suitable for one person but quite useless for the other.
- (b) The size of the shoe changes as one grows.
- (c) There is a slight difference in right foot and the left foot.
- (d) No one can have all the things in the world.

Proverb:

7. We shall lie all alike in our graves.

Explanations:

- (a) All dead bodies are dressed in white.
- (b) Dead bodies cannot change their positions and have to lie in graves as they are put.
- (c) In death, all are alike.
- (d) All dead persons begin to like their graves.

Proverb:

8. When a chest lies open, a reputed honest man may sin.

Explanations:

- (a) If someone is standing with his chest open, an honest man might kill him with a dagger.
- (b) Even an honest man may do a wrong thing if the temptation is too much.
- (c) Only an honest man will steal from an open chest.
- (d) Honest men lose their reputation when they sin.

Proverb:

9. Hot men harbour no malice.

Explanations:

- (a) When a person has a high temperature he forgets all malice.
- (b) During heated discussions people forget all their malice.
- (c) Impetuous people bear no ill will when the excitement is gone.
- (d) Men with hot temperament forget all ill will when they are angry.

Proverb:

10. Every horse thinks his own pack heaviest.

Explanations:

- (a) Every person thinks that his troubles are the worst.
- (b) Horses with heavy packs are very conscious of

their weight.

- (c) Every person feels that he earns by doing heavy work.
- (d) All living creatures have to carry the load of their lives.

Proverb:

11. Every one desires to live long, but no one will be old.

Explanations:

- (a) Those who live long, do not get old.
- (b) Some people prefer to die rather than be old.
- (c) We only want the best out of life but are not prepared for its hazards.
- (d) Old people have no desires left.

Proverb:

12. The Devil was the first Democrat.

Explanations:

- (a) Democracy has a villainous background.
- (b) The first voice against dictatorship was raised by Satan in Heaven.
- (c) It is better to rule in Hell rather than serve in Heaven.
- (d) All democrats are Devils.

Proverb:

13. To choose time is to save time.

Explanations:

- (a) Everything must be done at the appropriate time so that time is not wasted.
- (b) One should not waste time in day dreaming.
- (c) Only those can save time who have a good choice.
- (d) One can save time by choosing good time-saving scientific devices.

Proverb:

14. Our greatest glory is not in falling but in rising everytime we fall.

Explanations:

- (a) No one can achieve glory without falling.
- (b) If one rises, one must fall.
- (c) Only glorious people see the ups and downs of life.
- (d) Those, who have the courage to rise everytime they fall, are truly glorious.

Proverb:

15. He that lives on hope will die fasting.

Explanations:

- (a) A person, who lives in the dream-world of hope, will be deprived of everything in life.
- (b) Hopeful people are very religious and often die fasting.
- (c) If one loses hope, there is nothing but death.
- (d) When people starve, they leave all hope.

Proverb:

16. A bad man is worse when he pretends to be a saint.

Explanations:

- (a) A bad man can never be a saint.
- (b) Saints often pretend that they are bad men.
- (c) The worst part a regular villain can play is that of a saint.
- (d) When a villainous character poses to be a good man, he is worse than those who are bad and look bad.

Proverb:

17. Newspapers are worse than bayonets.

Explanations:

- (a) The edge of a paper is sharper than the point of a bayonet.
- (b) The muckraking of the press can harm a person much more than wounds caused by bayonet.
- (c) Newspapers are not so expensive as the bayonets.
- (d) The job of a press-reporter is worse than being a soldier.

Proverb:

18. "Laws can discover sin but not remove it." It implies that:

Explanations:

- (a) Law and welfare are different departments.
- (b) Law is not allowed to punish a sinner.
- (c) Law is not a remedy against sin, so that the sinners may become good.
- (d) Law has got a department to deal with the sinners.

Proverb:

19. Learning makes a man fit company for himself.

Explanations:

- (a) One who is reading good books, is perfectly happy and needs no company.
- (b) A learned person has perfect manners.
- (c) A learned man can fit in any company.
- (d) A person who is learning something cannot give company to others.

Proverb:

20. No man flatters the woman he truly loves.

Explanations:

- (a) Flatterers should be avoided as they do not know how to love.
- (b) Man flatters the woman he likes.
- (c) True love has no room for flattery.
- (d) Flattery is an art which men have used to make women fall in love with them.

Proverb:

21. Rome was not built in a day.

Assumptions:

- (a) The Romans did not have sophisticated equipments.
- (b) The Romans were a lazy lot.
- (c) It took years of patience, hard work and determination to construct a city like Rome.

(d) Rome was built in seven years.

Proverb:

22. All that glitters is not gold.

Assumptions:

- (a) Gold does not shine brightly.
- (b) Some worthless articles might have an outward shine like gold
- (c) Glitter often attracts attention.
- (d) Gold is very expensive.

Proverb:

23. Necessity is the mother of invention.

Assumptions:

- (a) Inventions are a necessary part of life.
- (b) New scientific inventions are epoch making.
- (c) When a need is felt, human beings invent something to fulfil it.
- (d) Houses have become a necessity for those who lived in caves.

Proverb:

24. Beggars cannot be choosers.

Assumptions:

- (a) Beggars do not have a good choice.
- (b) Beggars have to be contented with whatever they get.
- (c) Choosing for beggars is prohibited by law.
- (d) Beggars are not allowed to choose their life partners.

Proverb:

25. He that nothing questioneth, nothing learneth.

Assumptions:

- (a) Curiosity is an essential part of learning.
- (b) Fools ask too many questions.
- (c) Learning requires no question.
- (d) The word of learned should not be questioned.

Proverb:

26. Man proposes, God disposes.

Assumptions:

- (a) God does not allow us to make plans.
- (b) God has always been against man.
- (c) Man-made plans are often shattered by God's will.
- (d) Man knows the actions of God.

Proverb:

27. Clean fast is better than a dirty breakfast.

Assumptions:

- (a) Persons eating dirty things become immune to dirt.
- (b) Those who observe fast, should avoid breakfast.
- (c) Breakfast and fast do not go together.
- (d) Better starve than eat dirty stuff.

Proverb:

28. The bait hides the hook.

Assumptions:

- (a) Tempting offers might indeed be traps.

(b) Hook is an essential part of a fishing rod.

(c) Worms are often used as baits.

(d) A fish, caught by the hook, cannot swallow the bait.

Proverb:

29 Where one door shuts, another opens.

Assumptions:

- (a) Some people keep the front doors shut and open only the back doors.
- (b) No door can be opened unless it is shut.
- (c) Shut one door then open another.
- (d) Do not be in despair at your failure, another opportunity awaits you.

Proverb:

30. Crows are never the whiter for washing themselves.

Assumptions:

- (a) Crows are black.
- (b) Make any efforts, the original character never changes.
- (c) A bad person may try to prove by his behaviour that he is reformed, but he is not.
- (d) Swans and cranes are white crows.

Statement:

31. Praise without profit puts little in the pot.

Assumptions:

- (a) If you praise others, you cannot save money.
- (b) Person, who gets lot of praise for his work but is not paid handsomely, can hardly have enough money.
- (c) Person who gets praise in spite of not being able to make good money, always puts his little saving in a pot.
- (d) Those who put their little things in a pot get a lot of praise.

Statement:

32. Promise little, do much.

Assumptions:

- (a) Those who make little promises have to do much.
- (b) Making little promise is in itself quite a big thing.
- (c) If you make a small promise to somebody, he expects much in return.
- (d) It is better to do much rather than making big promises.

ANSWERS

- | | | | |
|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| 1. (b) | 2. (c) | 3. (a) | 4. (c) |
| 5. (d) | 6. (a) | 7. (c) | 8. (b) |
| 9. (c) | 10. (a) | 11. (c) | 12. (b) |
| 13. (a) | 14. (d) | 15. (a) | 16. (d) |
| 17. (b) | 18. (c) | 19. (a) | 20. (c) |
| 21. (c) | 22. (b) | 23. (c) | 24. (b) |
| 25. (a) | 26. (c) | 27. (d) | 28. (a) |
| 29. (d) | 30. (c) | 31. (b) | 32. (d) |

Argumentative Questions on Social and Economic Problems

NATIONAL SERVICE FOR DEGREE

Q. National service for one year is proposed to be made compulsory for getting a degree. Do you approve of this proposal? Give arguments *For* and *Against* it.

Ans. According to a proposal recently made for inclusion in the new national youth policy being framed by the Union Government, college students would have to render compulsory national service for one year in order to get a degree. The service could be in the form of three months' residence in rural backward areas and other States plus nine months of various forms of national service—attachment to industrial units, slum clearance work, etc. Official circles have also indicated that national service might include participation in the National Literacy Mission. The residence in the villages could mean stay of one month per year of college plus the equivalent of nine months of service spread over three years of college life. The creation of a national guard scheme to create a cadre of dedicated, motivated and committed youth activists in the rural areas is suggested. The concept national service by students obviously stems from the movements launched by Mahatma Gandhi and later by Mr Jayaprakash Narayan in Bihar.

Arguments For the Scheme

1. Constructive work in rural areas is vital for the country's progress. Compulsory national service, as envisaged by the Government, will help promote unity and integration by facilitating the association of urban youth with rural people and familiarising them with rural surroundings about which they read in books but which many of them might never have seen with their own eyes.

2. Compulsory residence in some village for about three months and trips to other parts of the State and the country will make today's youth aware of the rich cultural and historic heritage of which we are so proud and of which we read in our literature.

3. National service by youth will also help in preservation and revitalisation of democracy and secularism. It would help foster a sense of commitment to fight injustice, atrocities and inequalities which the youth will be able to see for themselves. Mixing up with people holding different views and adopting different modes of living will help develop respect and due consideration for others.

4. The scheme is also commendable since it will help promote and revitalise democracy as well as secularism. The contacts of youth will be with members of all communities regardless of caste and creed. This activity may also help in character building and developing a healthy outlook as well as the spirit of tolerance.

5. Since the people to be contacted and served may be speaking different languages and dialects, the three-language formula, which is part of the Government's education policy, may get a boost. At present it is not being earnestly implemented.

Arguments Against the Scheme

1. Some exceptions apart, most of the students sent for rendering national service will merely remain idle, spend time in roaming about and gossip. National service—in fact any type of public service—requires a reformed outlook which simply does not exist among students of today.

2. The scheme provides for shifting students from village to village.

The result will probably be that hardly any concrete work will be done in any village. Again, the proposed concession that students may spread over the period of service over a couple of years will probably minimise the chances of durable benefits being imparted to any specific area. After all, what lasting work can be done by youngsters in a few weeks?

3. The experience of similar national service linked with the grant of a degree, conducted immediately after the partition of 1947, was not happy. Little constructive work was done; the youth did not take much interest in service; they merely spent the time somehow, wandered about without showing much interest in solid work. Dullards and third-rate worthless boys got degrees for a song.

4. The general tendency among villagers is to scoff at urban youth who find it difficult to adapt themselves to rural life, who dress themselves in urban ways and live in the style they are accustomed to. They are generally described as "snobs" by the villagers. There is very little affinity between the college youth and rural masses whom they are sent to serve. Outsiders are not looked upon as "sons of the soil" and therefore viewed with suspicion and distrust.

NEW SWADESHI MOVEMENT?

Q. "What India needs is a second Swadeshi movement to develop indigenous technology for the masses and not foreign assistance which makes India a subservient nation." Do you accept this view? Give arguments *For* and *Against* this view.

Ans. The Governor of Tamil Nadu, Mr Surjit Singh Barnala, inaugurating a fair in Madras (named Techsource 90) on October 26 this year, urged that the country should start a

second Swadeshi movement so that we become self-reliant and do not become subservient to others meeting our requirements. To this end, the Centre and the State governments should give incentives to industrialists and other genuine parties for carrying on research and the requisite propaganda. I accept this view expressed by the Governor, though there are several hurdles in the way of India becoming self-reliant in technology.

Arguments For the View

1. The Swadeshi movement launched by Mahatma Gandhi was a great success; it brought home to the masses that the country's salvation lay in using indigenous articles (cloth, manufactures, etc) and stop patronising foreign goods the high sales of which were doing much damage to the national economy and virtually "killing" local talent and industry.

2. The urgency of the matter is highlighted by the following facts: The Union Government allocation for science and technology increased from Rs 1380 crore in the Fifth Plan to Rs 4813 crore in the Seventh Plan. The foreign collaborations soared from about 400 in 1981 to over 1000 in 1990. It is indeed a pity that production based on indigenous knowhow did not amount to more than a few hundred crores of rupees. The obvious reason is that the industries failed to develop the requisite simple systems for use by the common people.

3. The position at present is indeed pathetic and distinctly anti-national, calling for urgent correctives; even washing machines and of course aeroplanes are built with the use of foreign technology. The reason of course is profitability: the industrialists look more to what they can gain from their ventures than to the need to encourage indigenous talent and develop local resources.

Arguments Against the View

1. Just as *khaddar* and handloom cloth are no longer in fashion and have been outclassed by modern fabrics (terrycot, artificial mixed yarn and fine textiles) manufactured with foreign collaboration, similarly relatively inferior quality goods manufac-

tured with indigenous technology are not patronised by our people. As a result, the sales of "Swadeshi" goods are limited and the manufactures stand to suffer losses. So they avoid such ventures.

2. There is much waste and infructuous activity in the country's research establishments at various centres. So the results of all the research work are totally disproportionate to the investment made in the laboratories many of which have consequently become virtual "white elephants". To quote just one figure, while the country is currently spending Rs 3500 crore on research and development activity at various centres every year, the amount provided by financial institutions for commercialisation of the results of such research is only Rs 30 crore. No wonder the researchers feel disheartened and have lost interest in such research. This implies considerable waste of public money.

3. There is no harm, speaking from the economic standpoint, in utilising foreign knowhow to meet the market demand and effect the economies in the production processes even while conforming to the latest trends in apparel and other articles used by consumers. No country in the world can become totally independent in respect of its needs. Even the USA, a highly industrialised country, imports readymade handloom garments from India.

4. The Indian consumer also benefits because he gets quality goods manufactured by multinationals operating with Indian collaboration. So there would be no justification for banning or severely restricting the import of foreign technology. The industrialists get more profits through such collaboration, the Indian exchequer gains through more excise revenue and the consumer is happy with the variety of durable goods he can buy in the open market. That clinches the arguments against the proposed ban on import of technology.

ROLE OF THE NAVY

Q. "The advice given recently by

the President of India to the Navy to protect island nations situated in India's neighbourhood is sound and unexceptionable." Give arguments For and Against this view.

Ans. India's gradually expanding Navy does have an important role to play in the country's defence plans, but whether it should go to the help of all island nations situated around the Indian sub-continent is a matter of opinion. The President was right, however, in contending that India would have to further strengthen its defences because its strategic location has given it a responsibility to ensure the freedom and independence of the surrounding island nations.

Arguments For the View

1. India has a vast 6000-km coastline to defend against intrusions by hostile forces. Apart from the large 200-mile Exclusive Economic Zone with its enormous marine and mineral wealth, there are full and heavy responsibilities towards the offshore installations, especially Bombay High, the rich source of oil and a boon to the country. There are also other oil-bearing areas already discovered, or being investigated. Their protection is a task for the Navy which should be adequately expanded.

2. No less important, there are the ocean islands — Andamans, Nicobar and Lakshadweep. These are part of India and have to be duly protected by our naval forces, especially because these are highly vulnerable.

3. Occasionally, there are demands for action by the Indian Navy from small island republics in the Indian Ocean. Since India is a predominant regional force in South-East Asia, requests for protection cannot be ignored or brushed aside as "none of our business". Maldives was the most recent instance of successful Indian action in November, 1988 on the seas near India. Our Navy drove off the mercenaries.

Arguments Against the View

1. We learnt a bitter lesson from our misadventure in Sri Lanka. Although we sent our armed forces, including a part of our navy, for

assisting the Sri Lanka Government and delivering essential supplies to stranded people in the northern area, we were later insulted and humiliated by the Sri Lankans who insisted on our complete pull-out from the island. India paid a heavy price for the effort to restore peace there. We should not, therefore, intervene in any other country's affairs.

2. Any naval intervention or assistance even at a foreign country's request in times of crisis would be exploited by Pakistan in an attempt to show that we are trying to expand our sphere of influence. Besides, our navy has many shortcomings. The annual budget grant for the Navy is wholly inadequate to meet its growing requirements. The Army and the Air Force get the lion's share of the Defence budget. In the case of Maldives we did not have to face any opposition worth the name, but if we send our ships to some other country which has an alliance with a foreign power having a strong navy, we would probably suffer defeat in any counter-attack. That would bring us a bad name and adversely affect our prestige. It is advisable to realise our limitations and concentrate on our own multi-faceted problems of defending our territories. Our punch capability must of course be continually enhanced.

FORECASTERS OF DOOM

Q. "The so-called "prophets of Doom" who believe that there would be complete disaster and ruin of the world by 2000 or 2050 and propagate their forecasts should be ostracised from society since they cause panic and dislocate normal life." Give arguments *For* and *Against* this view.

Ans. Forecasters of an early end to all life on earth have existed for centuries. Fortunately, each "Prophet of Doom" has only a limited following and a temporary hold on the people's minds and then fades away, like a dark cloud. The latest example of credulous people frantically selling off all their belongings and rushing to underground shelters specially being built in a large and "safe" area again comes from the

USA where a saree-clad American lady, Elizabeth Clare Prophet, has spread a new cult according to which the time has come to take all possible measures to save yourself from total destruction that would be caused by an imminent nuclear war.

Arguments For the View

1. The "Prophets of Doom" are undeniably a public danger. They cause much havoc by spreading frightening rumours of an imminent calamity and persuading people to abandon their professions, their property and whatever else they have, withdraw their children from school, and their deposits from banks and booking underground shelters by paying the price demanded, spreading panic and false rumours. Their activity is anti-social and in some countries even unlawful. So no time should be lost in checking such rumour mongers.

2. Unless such misleading activity is effectively countered, fear would spread; there would be panic selling of whatever assets the misled people have; much loss of education because the children would be out of school for quite some time. Surely, it is the Government's duty to protect the interests of the citizens, just as it seeks, through the forces of law and order, to protect innocent people from robbery, theft, murder, intimidation and kidnapping. Those who spread fear and panic among the people are no less dangerous to peace and amity than the thieves, deceivers and others of their kind. Moreover, these organisers have bought weapons, presumably for defence.

3. The US Government has strict laws against misleading claims made by manufacturers who try to lure unwary consumers to buy their products with all sorts of promises of miraculous properties, highly beneficial ingredients, health giving properties, etc. There are Consumer Protection Societies and departments which seek to prosecute those who make such false claims. There is every reason for the Government and social reformers to take action against people claiming to have peeped

into the future and forecast a calamitous end to the world in a matter of years.

Arguments Against the View

1. The people in a full-fledged democracy are free under the laws to hold and propagate any belief they like so long as they do not become, or create, a public nuisance. The so-called "Prophets of Doom" are generally honest, harmless people. If they choose to deceive themselves, become Gurus with a set of followers and disciples, or are misled by certain people who claim to be their well wishers and want to "save them from inevitable doom", it is their business. The Government does not lose anything in the process; the loss is entirely of the people who are taken in by such rumours.

2. The "Prophets of Doom" do not make false promises to the people, nor do they hold out assurances of jobs and employment of any kind or any other assurance. In fact, the organiser of the new movement in the hills of Paradise Valley, Montana, U.S., declared clearly: "We have told people not to come here (the 132,000-hectare headquarters of their cult in the Montana area) unless they are financially entirely stable. In the eventuality that war does not happen now, it is their own responsibility to see that they are professionally in demand."

3. Some years ago a few adventurers sold housing sites on the moon. If credulous people choose to fall into such traps, the Government cannot check them. Even educated people with money are fooled.

4. While the seekers of safety are stocking provisions for several weeks, the organiser assures: "We are not saying good-bye to the world." The shelters will be used only if there is a nuclear war against which the Government has not provided adequate protection. As for the purchase of arms by the cult organisers for safety, the explanation is: "This is a gun country; everyone keeps some guns. So the Government has no reason to take any action against such people who are firm believers in a new cult."

MODEL PARAGRAPHS

"Reason is the triumph of the intellect, faith of the heart."

—James Schouler.

"Where reason fails, faith works", is an age-old belief, both among the lettered as well as among the unlettered. In the fitful flash of reason and analysis, one may feel excited in the maze of arguments and experiments but beyond a certain point, intellect stops short of answering all our queries and thus fails to satisfy our spiritual quests. Both reason-cum-intellect and faith-cum-heart have their respective spheres of action and contemplation and only the foolish see a contradiction or conflict between them. The wise resort to both in the pursuit of their plans and purposes and do not waste their breath in under-rating the other. Excessive reliance on reason is as bad as blind bondage of faith. No doubt the world has marched ahead in fields other than spiritualism and mysticism on the props offered by reason and reasonable approaches. Science and technology have contributed to the material welfare of mankind in more than one way and this has been due to the triumph of intellect over the multi-dimensional forces of nature. With material progress have come unrest and uncertainty, the cure of which can come only from the deep recesses of heart wherein lie the fountains of emotions recollected in tranquillity and the springs of many-coloured faiths that have tamed and tutored mankind to remain human and humane.

"Pride and grace dwell never in one place."

— Thomas Fuller.

Pride is the off-shoot of conceit and arrogance; grace is the reflection of modesty and humility. Both are human qualities yet they are poles apart from each other. In the changed scenario of the world, both the East and the West have learnt to

co-exist and co-operate with each other but pride and grace have no such chance of living in the same personality, however dubious and feigning that may be. A conviction shared by one and all is that 'pride hath a fall sooner than anticipated' and yet how many of us make an honest effort not to fall an easy prey to this monster. With pelf and possession, pride like a vulture easily carves a niche and nook in our personality on the other hand grace has to the cultivated and caressed like a rare virtue and asset. Grace is a godly gift whereas pride is the Satan's kick, the intoxication of which is quick and quacking. History of mankind bears an open testimony to the fact that petulant pride was the cause of many a monarch biting the dust and the mighty eating a humble pie before the gracious and the glorious, who were humble yet profound, scholarly yet sober.

"All friends shall taste the wages of their virtue, and all foes the cup of their deservings."

— Shakespeare.

A firm belief repeated and reiterated age after age and trusted by the noble as well as the virtuous, carries in its web and womb the nectar of life that all friends shall be rewarded for their goodness whereas all enemies shall have to gulp down their throats the venom of their mis-deeds and mis-demeanours. 'The wages of sin is death' is said of those who barter away their souls for transitory material gain and employ every dubious and devilish design in their armoury to gain illusory ascendancy over the noble and the innocent. In a world where both friends and foes live side by side, the former subsist by the ethics of morality and righteousness whereas the latter always fall back upon expediency and deception, little realising that the

end of their underhand means and scheming mind is nothing but kicks and knocks. Both the intentions and actions of a friend are open and above board but the smiles and hand-shake of an enemy are sinister and sneaky. The enemies suffer ignominy and are condemned to be thrown into the dust-bin of time, not because we wish them such a fate but because they have themselves sown the seeds of their destruction.

"He who swells in prosperity will shrink in adversity."

— H.G. Bohn.

Human personality is like a balloon that swells in prosperity but shrinks in adversity. Like a bubble our elation is short lived as well as shallow. Only the vain and the egoist swell and swear in their prosperity. They fail to see the writing on the wall and consider their present state as something that has come to stay for ever. Short-sighted and pompous as they are, they fail to see beyond their nose and when adversity over-takes them they stand outwitted and look owlish in their own eyes. Expanding in prosperity and contracting in adversity exposes the one who is morally weak and spiritually bankrupt. A stable and sober character always maintains his composure and judges events and eventualities with equanimity and equilibrium. No amount of worldly success turns his head nor can failure make him desperate and dispondent. Life's book is written both with smiles and tears and we, as human beings, should always be prepared for all exigencies and emergencies. The golden path of life is that where we do not succumb to swelling in prosperity nor fall into the pit of shrinking susceptibility in adversity because both good and bad fortune is beyond our control and command and whatever happens, must happen, whether we relish that happening or not.

How to build up Self-confidence

Trust thyself; every heart vibrates to that iron string.

—Emerson

Self-confidence is one of the most desirable traits of a dynamic personality and an indispensable ingredient of success in life. It means firm trust in one's self. It has also been called self-esteem, self-respect, self-reliance. It is just normal healthy egotism.

Magic of Self-confidence

As Dr D.H. Fink puts it: "it is the self-attitude that makes possible all possible, positive dynamic living." This positive self-attitude banishes doubt and fear, creates hope and confidence and sets the mood for any successful effort. It steers our resolution to go forward and upward and to do what we have to do to achieve our aims.

Considered as self-respect, it is the basis of character. It keeps a man straight. And it gears him to develop his abilities and to actualise his potentiality.

A self-confident young man begins his career when he chooses a hard job and says: "It's worth doing and I'm strong enough to do it." He sets his jaw and says, "I know I h've got it in me to make a big success" and then starts on his way up.

As an eminent psychologist has it, self-confidence in a person is as natural as the self-confidence of a soaring bird.

What lack of self-confidence spells?

Self-confidence is the one quality that many a young man needs most. For lack of it he will spend his life in the rank-and-file, doing petty jobs. In Dr Fink's words "lacking self-confidence, one cannot be of any use to himself or to anyone else. Possess-

ing self-enjoyment in reality potential confidence is like a bird without wings. All his life he will be stuck-in-the-mud, doomed to eke out a miserable existence. When an opportunity presents itself, a man of self-confidence grasps it quickly and acts; the man lacking self-confidence vacillates like Hamlet, and misses it. And time and tide wait for no man. Recall Shakespeare's famous lines on this theme in Julius Caesar:

*There is a tide in the affairs of men,
Which, taken at the flood, leads on to fortune;*

*Omitted; all the voyage of their life
Is bound in shallows and miseries.*

What undermines self-confidence?

For the sake of social acceptance, you try to conform to what other people tell about you. How one imagines he appears to others is what Cooley calls the reflected or 'looking-glass self':

*Each to each a looking-glass
Reflects the other that doth pass.*

This striving to be what you are not, in the light of your personal record of success or failure in reaching the goals you have striven to attain, creates the double image of your personality and destroys self-confidence. This is the basis of inferiority complex. It gives you a feeling of being of no importance and in your misery you are like a worm grovelling in the dust. You cease to be a man and become a robot.

Consistency proveness

Consistency is a paste jewel that only feeble men cherish. J.R. Lowell said, "The foolish and the dead alone never change their opinion." It is as Emerson put it,

The habit of expecting others to do for you what you can and should do for yourself undermines your initiative and self-confidence. This negative self-attitude of dependence upon others is expressed in the saying, "Let George do it." It is also useless and dangerous to choose unrealistic and unattainable objectives. For failure can destroy self-confidence.

How to safeguard and restore self-confidence?

There are some psychologically sound recipes for protecting self-confidence and re-building it when it has been shattered.

Don't tell yourself that you can't do a thing when you mean that you have not tried. "The race is not always to the swift nor the battle to the strong; often victory goes to the adventurous and persistent." Never accept another's word for it when he tells you that you can't do what you aspire to do. Reject general criticism and accept specific and constructive criticism gratefully.

Overcome an inferiority complex by judging yourself not by what others tell you but by what your success and failures have told you.

If you are lacking in self-confidence, it is because your mental portrait of yourself is unrealistic. You will begin to regain your self-confidence by seeing yourself as you really are.

Another recipe for protecting your self-confidence is to keep Nosey Parkers (inquisitive busy bodies) out of your life. Don't try to please everybody. Trying to please everyone, you will please no one, including

yourself. Remember Aesop's fable about a man and a boy who were driving a donkey to market. They met many people and every one had a different idea about who should carry whom. In their efforts to please everybody the man and the boy pleased none, and they lost their self-confidence as well.

A responsible, mature adult decides for himself whom he wants to please; and makes his choice on the basis of what really pleases him; what honestly represents his taste, what makes him feel best.

Take your own decisions and abide by them. Consult friends and experts for your own problem certainly and if what they say contains helpful advice, act upon it, but don't allow them to influence you to the actual decision, for that must be yours alone anyway.

Pluck the "iron string" and keep it vibrating, lest it should go rusty or become useless, or only half as strong as it might be. Self-confidence becomes the greater, the more it is used. It is like a limb: use it or lose it.

Think for yourself. All great men in history had a common trait: they did their own thinking; they refused to let others think for them and trusted to the 'iron string' of mind and heart. To quote Emerson again, "A man should learn to detect and watch that gleam of light which flashes across his mind from within, more than the lustre of the firmament of bards and sages.... In every work of genius we recognise our own rejected thoughts; they come back to us with a certain alienated majesty." Never has anything worthwhile been created in the world by people who did not think for themselves; who did not know what they liked, what they believed in what they stood for; who did not say with Luther, "Here I stand, I cannot do otherwise." Some of the world's greats appeared to be out of the tune with their contemporaries, but, as Thoreau said, "they were marching to the beat of a different drum."

Self-structure — a dynamic

conception

The self-structure is a constantly changing conception. One's self-concept continues to change throughout life provided he continues to grow in his adult psycho-social existence. If he does so he will form a creative self; if not, he will tend in the direction of an authoritarian self or authoritarian personality.

A special word is called for self-esteem in this context. It is a basic psychological need in every person. It is the degree of liking or disliking oneself. It is an affective response to the balance between the self-ideal and realistic achievement. Once established it usually remains constant. One who lacks it becomes basically unhappy, tense and restless.

One's ideals change and one's various public-selves are also constantly subject to change. One should be wide awake to these changes as they occur so that one can make sure that these selves can live in harmony—that is the secret of a healthy dynamic and autonomous personality.

Harmonious self-structure

In a healthy personality the three components—self-concept, self-ideal and public-self—are harmoniously integrated. For such integrated harmony it is essential, first of all that one's self-concept should be based on what one really is. This means first that he should not hide from himself. He must recognize those assets he possesses as well as those he does not. A person who carries a realistic self-concept in his mind of what he actually is with all his assets and liabilities in sharp focus has no need for pretenses. He accepts himself for what he really is.

Secondly, one's self-ideal must be feasible. "It would be unhealthy to have perfection as a self-ideal since perfection in man", says Norman Cousins, "is to talk about the need for another species. The essence of man is imperfection."

Thirdly, one's various public-selves must be accurate and compatible with one another. This means that one should not tell one's fiancée that

he is a good dancer if he is not. And, he should not try to get others to believe that he is brilliant if he is not. This rules out bluffing, boastfulness, hypocrisy, play-acting, humbug and camouflage. In a word, the impression one tries to leave with others cannot be faked.

Keep enthusiasm ablaze to gain self-confidence

Take enthusiasm to excellence in what you strive for, care tremendously for what you do and identify yourself with it. There is a beautiful way of doing things and an ugly way of doing things, a way of doing things whole heartedly, single-mindedly and a way of doing things anyhow scampingly and in a dead-alive way.

Overcome Inferiority Feelings

Some persons launch a project with enthusiasm but later their enthusiasm wanes. As a psychologist has it, "To begin well but finish poorly is a common failing. When progress becomes difficult we easily find excuses to give up. The stamina that carries a job through is a rare quality than it ought to be." If you start well but end badly, it is not because you are not really interested in the task itself but because you desire to win the approval of other persons or a feeling of self-approval. Under these conditions a long-range project may prove difficult and the project so enthusiastically begun is only half-completed.

Such a wobbling frame of mind is a symptom of feelings of inferiority. To overcome these feelings, stop and do what you really feel like doing. Even otherwise when you feel that your enthusiasm is at a low ebb mix with people who by their encouragement bring out the best in you. Avoid persons who complain, criticize, counsel despair, or otherwise set an unfavourable example. Associate with optimistic go-ahead people who by word and example act as an inspiration.

Don't be discouraged by setbacks, obstacles or failures. Make them your spurs rather than dampers, by taking them in your stride. Nothing ventured, nothing won.

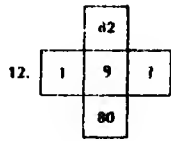
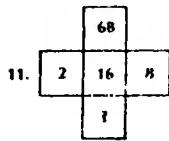
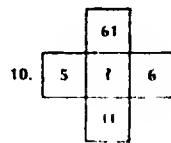
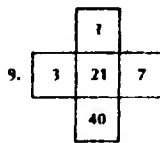
TEST OF REASONING—I

NUMBER SERIES

Find out the missing numbers in the series of numbers given below:

1. 1; 8; 9; 64; 25; ...
2. 2; 6; 12; ...; 30; 42.
3. 17; 24; ...; 41; 51; 62.
4. 2; 3; 7; 22; ...; 446.
5. 1; 2; 2; 4; 8; 32; ...
6. 5; 12; 7; 15; 8; 18; 10; ...; 21.
7. 14; 12; 21; ...; 28; 24; 35; 30.
8. 9; 18; 10; 27; 11; ...; 12.

Numbers in questions 9 to 12 follow the same arrangement. Your task is to find out the missing ones.



In questions 13 to 16, the pattern of the arrangement of numbers is the same. Study the pattern and find out the missing numbers.

13.

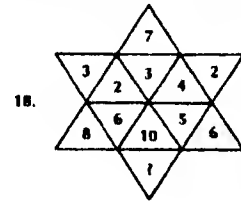
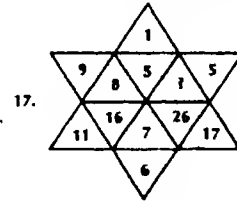
3	100	7
22	?	84
12	19	4
14.

2	144	10
28	36	?
16	26	8
15.

5	256	11
46	52	330
?	41	6
16.

1	?	8
16	23	56
7	15	7

Find out the missing numbers in questions 17 and 18.



LETTER SERIES

Calculate the value of each letter according to the following formula.

Consonants: Its place in the alphabetical order $\times 2 + 1$.

Vowels: (Its place $\times 3$) $- 3$. Then add all the values.

19. HEART

- (a) 109 (b) 107 (c) 98
(d) 117 (e) 105

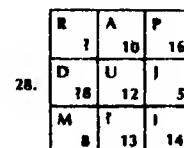
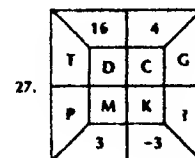
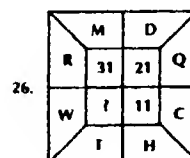
20. CROWD

- (a) 142 (b) 138 (c) 164
(d) 151 (e) 147

Find the odd-man out:

21. (a) NljK (b) TroP (c) GccD
(d) ZxvW (e) UsqR
22. (a) SpRq (b) ZwYx (c) MjLk
(d) EbDc (e) UqTs
23. (a) EgC (b) JIH (c) VxT
(d) PrM (e) CcA
24. (a) suR (b) loK (c) chD
(d) orN (e) knJ
25. (a) Pros (b) Wyvz (c) Fhci
(d) Bdae (e) Npmr

Find out the missing letter/number in the following questions:



Answer questions 29 to 31 on the basis of arrangement of letters given below:

W M R A N
F L G Y D
B U J P I
Q Z T C S
E O K X H

29. Which letter is missing in the above series?
30. If all the letters were to be shifted and arranged alphabetically, which letter will remain at its present position?
31. Which two letters occurring together in the alphabetical order happen to be neighbours here as well?

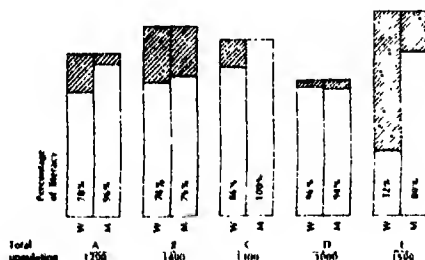
CODING-DECODING

Words on the left are written in their coded form on write. Your task is to find out the right code for letter enclosed in the box.

32. C H A N G E
(a) y (b) t (c) s (d) v (e) w (f) h
33. G A R D F N
(a) v (b) s (c) t (d) y (e) k (f) b
34. G O L D E N
(a) z (b) k (c) v (d) s (e) t (f) d
35. T H R O W S
(a) w (b) g (c) u (d) b (e) l (f) z
36. S T R E A M
(a) u (b) b (c) l (d) f (e) y (f) t
37. M U S L I N
(a) l (b) f (c) d (d) v (e) m (f) j
38. U R B A N E
(a) b (b) j (c) y (d) p (e) t (f) v

STATISTICS

The department of Adult Education made survey of five areas A, B, C, D and E. The areas had different number of adults but the number of men and women in each area was equal. The diagram given below represents the data collected. Make a thorough study of the diagram and answer the questions that follow:



39. What approximately is the percentage of men and women of these areas who are illiterate?

- (a) 18.7% (b) 23.2% (c) 19.3% (d) 20.4%

40. What per cent of women (approximately) residing in these areas are literate?

- (a) 71.3% (b) 74.2% (c) 68.9% (d) 70.8%

41. What approximately is the percentage of literate men?

- (a) 88.4% (b) 91.2% (c) 86.7% (d) 87.1%

42. How many more men living in A are literate in comparison to women of that area?

- (a) 120 (b) 108 (c) 48 (d) 74

43. Which area records the least illiteracy?

- (a) A (b) B (c) C (d) D

44. What is the difference in the number of uneducated men and women in B?

- (a) 28 (b) 24 (c) 14 (d) 22

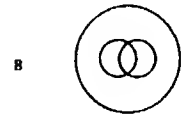
LOGICAL DIAGRAMS

The items in questions given below have been represented by circle irrespective of the size. Your task is to match the right question with the right set of circles on the basis of the relationship among the three items.

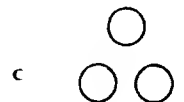
45. year : February : leap-year



46. book : chart : atlas



47. bed : sofa : furniture



48. white : clothes : flowers



49. algebra : geometry : arithmetic



50. soldiers : moustache : men



ANSWERS AND EXPLANATIONS

1. 216. The arrangement is $1^2; 2^3; 3^2; 4^3; 5^2; 6^3...$
2. 20. Go on adding 4; 6; 8; 10... to numbers.
3. 32. Add 7; 8; 9; 10... to numbers.
4. 89. The preceding number is multiplied by 1; 2; 3... respectively and then 1 is added to it:
 $(2 \times 1) + 1 = 3; (3 \times 2) + 1 = 7; (7 \times 3) + 1 = 22...$
5. 256. Each number is the product of two preceding numbers, i.e. $1 \times 2 = 2; 2 \times 2 = 4; 4 \times 8 = 32$ etc...
6. 31. Each alternate number is the total of numbers on its right and left.
7. 18. Two series have been arranged alternately, 14; 21; 28; 35... and 12; 18; 24; 30...
8. 36. Again there are two series, 9; 10; 11; ... and 18; 27; 36...
9. to 12. The arrangement is example (9): $3 \times 7 = 21; 7^2 - 3^2$, i.e., $49 - 9 = 40$ and $7^2 + 3^2$, i.e., $49 + 9 = 58$
9. 58 10. 30 11. 60 12. 9
13. to 16. The arrangement is $(3 + 7)^2 = 100; 3 + 7 + 4 + 12 = 26; 26 - 4 = 22; 7 \times 12 = 84$ and $7 + 12 = 19; 3 \times 4 = 12$.
13. 26 14. 160 15. 30 16. 81
17. 6. Numbers in the upper half hexagon are differences in the numbers of extreme corners, i.e. $6 - 1 = 5; 11 - 5 = 6$ etc and in the lower half are additions, i.e. $6 + 1 = 7; 11 + 5 = 16$ and $17 + 9 = 26$.
18. 21. The pattern along a line of triangles is $7 + 3 = 10$ and $7 \times 3 = 21; 3 + 2 = 5$ and $3 \times 2 = 6$
19. (b) The arrangement would be $17 + 12 + 0 + 37 + 41$

= 107

20. (a) $7 + 37 + 42 + 47 + 9 = 142$.
21. (b) 22. (e) 23. (d) 24. (a)
25. (e)
26. 43. Add the values of adjoining letters W and T i.e. 23 + 20 to get the number.
27. H. Subtract the value of inner letter from the value of outer letter; i.e., $8 - 11 = -3$
28. 9 and M. The total of numbers and values of letters linewise and column-wise is 35.
29. V 30. F 31. M and L
32. to 38. Sort out common letters in words and match them with letters in codes.
32. (e) 33. (a) 34. (f) 35. (b)
36. (e) 37. (b) 38. (d)
39. to 44. Find out the actual numbers and write them down chartwise. For example in area A, out of 600 women 468 are literate and out of 600 men 576 are literate. It will be easy to work out percentage
39. (d) 40. (d) 41. (a) 42. (b)
43. (d) 44. (c)
45. D. The leap-year is a little extra than the regular year and February covers that extra time.
46. F. Atlas is a book and charts are different.
47. A. Both bed and sofa are items of furniture.
48. E. Some clothes and some flowers are white although both are different items.
49. C. All are independent items.
50. B. All soldiers are men and some soldiers and some men other than soldiers have moustache.

TEST OF REASONING

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TEST OF REASONING-II

ODD-MAN

Find the odd-man out:

- | | |
|---------------------|-----------------|
| 1. (a) Kerala | (b) W. Bengal |
| (c) Uttar Pradesh | (d) Maharashtra |
| (e) Gujarat | |
| 2. (a) green | (b) violet |
| (c) brown | (d) yellow |
| (e) orange | |
| 3. (a) sea | (b) river |
| (c) valley | (d) lake |
| (e) pond | |
| 4. (a) Shah Jahan | (b) Akbar |
| (c) Sher Shah | (d) Aurangzeb |
| (e) Humayun | |
| 5. (a) hippopotamus | (b) unicorn |
| (c) rhinoceros | (d) antelope |
| (e) kangaroo | |
| 6. (a) sarangi | (b) violin |
| (c) piano | (d) sitar |
| (e) guitar | |
| 7. (a) soap | (b) powder |
| (c) lipstick | (d) cream |
| (e) nail-polish | |
| 8. (a) Kota | (b) Jabalpur |
| (c) Bhopal | (d) Delhi |
| (e) Lucknow | |

ANALOGIES

The pair of words in questions given below have certain relationship. Your task is to tick-mark the choice which has words with the similar relationship.

- | | |
|-------------------------------|------------------------|
| 9. spectacles : eyes | |
| (a) microphone : loud-speaker | |
| (b) pace-maker : heart | |
| (c) bicycle : legs | (d) gloves : hand |
| 10. blood : wound | |
| (a) book : read | (b) cloud : lightening |
| (c) medicine : drugs | (d) lava : volcano |
| 11. frankness : blunt | |
| (a) rise : awake | (b) weep : laugh |
| (c) sickness : death | (d) rest : activity |
| 12. post-card : envelope | |
| (a) letter : card | (b) book : magazine |
| (c) town : city | (d) moon : sun |

13. spade : garden

(a) needle : stitch (b) road : footpath
(c) tongs : kitchen (d) prisoner : jail.

14. shirt : garment

(a) cap : hat (b) heroin : drug
(c) foot : walk (d) stick : wood

15. liquid : solid

(a) childhood : manhood (b) oxygen : gas
(c) coal : fire (d) air : atmosphere

16. statue : marble

(a) brass : metal (b) ice-cream : milk
(c) colour : paint (d) rose : flower

What is common in the following? More than one choices may be correct but you have to tick mark the most appropriate one.

17. chill : tremor : creeps.

(a) They are emotions.
(b) They are connected with feeling cold.
(c) They are sensations.
(d) They are related to horrible sights.

18. cloud : pitcher : river.

(a) They are indispensable.
(b) They contain water.
(c) They are worshipped.
(d) They are considered sacred.

19. scrub : wipe : sweep

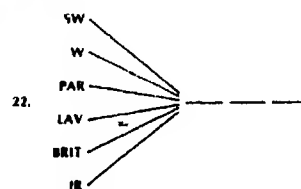
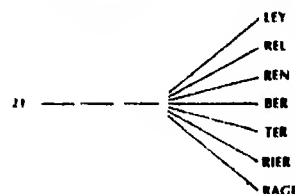
(a) They are not respectable jobs.
(b) The terms are related to cleaning.
(c) The terms are related to rubbing.
(d) The terms are connected with washing.

20. monkey : cat : squirrel.

(a) They are of the same colour.
(b) They can climb into trees.
(c) They are vegetarians.
(d) They have long tails.

LEXICAL ITEMS

Which set of three letters can be added before/after all the sets of letters to form words?



23. Find out the four-letter word, which, if added to letters on left and right would form new words.

SP(----)DITY

Find out words for brackets in the following questions according to the examples given.

24. GLORY(RAGE)STEAL
ENTER(----)NERVE

25. PRINT(TEAR)SPARE
USURP(----)CHEAT

Given below is a cycle of words, i.e. each next word starts with the last two letters of the preceding word. Find out these words with the help of the clue. The number of letters in words depends upon the number of blanks.

26. AM-----

30. IC-----

27. OR-----

29. ER-----

28. ON-----

CLUE:

26. A representative of the government in another country.

27. A systematic arrangement.

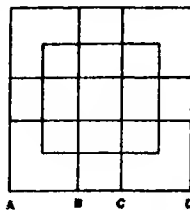
28. A witness to some happening.

29. Irregular.

30. A favourite dish of children.

DEDUCTIONS

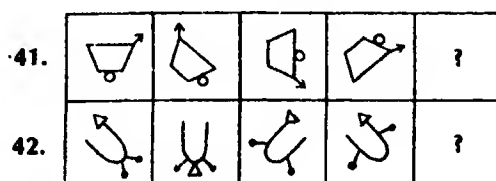
Make a study of the figure given below and answer the questions that follow.



NON-VERBAL SERIES

Given below are two sets of figures, the Problem Figures and the Answer Figures marked A, B, C, D and E. Your task is to find out which of the Answer Figures would fit in place of the question-mark in the Problem Figures.

PROBLEM FIGURES



31. How many squares does the figure contain?

(a) 18 (b) 19 (c) 25 (d) 27

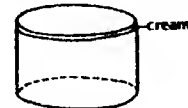
32. What part is BC of AD?

(a) half (b) one third (c) one fourth
(d) one fifth

A birthday cake with a rich icing on the top is to be distributed among eighteen persons.

33. How many minimum number of cuts are needed to cut the cake into eighteen equal parts?

(a) 5 (b) 6 (c) 8 (d) 12



34. If each person must get an equal share of icing as well, how many cuts would be needed to cut it into eighteen equal parts?

(a) 6 (b) 9 (c) 12 (d) 18

Six children A, B, C, D, E and F are sitting in two lines, one behind the other. Each line has three children.

D is to the right of C who is in front of F.

E is not in the line of F.

B has no one on the left.

Neither of A or E is in front of the other.

35. Where is E?

(a) Behind D

(b) In front of B

(c) In front of B

(d) To the right of D

Five girls Rekha, Bharti, Puja, Yamini and Veena have put on dresses of red, yellow, pink, violet and blue colours but not in the same order.

The first letters of names and colours are not the same.

Rekha and Veena are not wearing pink or blue dresses.

Yellow dress has not been put on by Puja or Rekha.

Bharti and Yamini have not put on red or violet colours.

Blue dress has not been put on by Puja.

On the basis of the statements given above, match the right parts:

36. Rekha

(a) red

37. Bharti

(b) yellow

38. Puja

(c) pink

39. Yamini

(d) violet

40. Veena

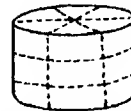
(e) blue

43.					?
44.					?
45.					?
46.					?
47.					?
48.					?
49.					?
50.					?

ANSWERS AND EXPLANATIONS

- (c) All the others have sea-coast.
- (d) Yellow is an original colour. All the others are mixed ones, e.g. blue + yellow = green; red + black = brown.
- (c) All the others have water.
- (c) He is the only Pathan among the Mughals.
- (b) It is an imaginary creature.
- (c) It is a key instrument as it has key-notes, all the others are string-instruments.
- (a) All the others are used for toning or enhancing beauty.
- (c) All the other cities are situated on the banks of some river or the other.
- (b) The equipment helps the organ mentioned to function better.
- (d) One oozes out from the other.
- (a) The words mean almost the same with a shade of difference.
- (c) Both belong to the same category but the second one is bigger.
- (c) The relationship is that of the equipment and the field where it is needed.
- (b) The relationship is that of the item and the category to which it belongs.
- (a) Both are different states of the same, i.e. matter and human life.
- (b) One is made from the other.
- (c) 18. (b) 19. (b) 20. (b) 21. BAR
- ISH 23. HERE 24. EVER 25. STEP
- AMBASSADOR 27. ORGANISATION
- ONLOOKER 29. ERRATIC
- ICECREAM 31. 27 32. one fifth

33. (a) 2 + 3 cuts.



34. (b) 9 cuts would divide the cake into eighteen parts.
35. (b) The arrangement is BAF
EDC
36. (d) 37. (c) 38. (a) 39. (e) 40. (b)
41. E. The main figure rotates clockwise, the circle moves along the sides anti-clockwise and the arrow changes sides.
42. C. The figure tilts towards left, the triangle moves along three points clockwise and two knobs slowly shift towards the opening.
43. D. The figure changes direction alternately, the leaf and ball move towards the other end changing sides.
44. A. The figure rotates clockwise and the figure in the middle turns upside down.
45. A. One leaf is added and pattern changes alternately.
46. B. Shape at the base and inner figure change alternately, arrow hops from one end to the other and the twig with leaf shifts towards right changing side.
47. D. The whole thing turns upside down with an added leaf on left and right by turns.
48. C. Both square and circle go around the five points clockwise.
49. C. Triangle moves along three points turning upside down, the circle along four points anti-clockwise.
50. A. The movement of the outer arc is clockwise and of the inner, anti-clockwise and figures on edges go to the other side.

TEST OF REASONING-III

SYLLOGISM

TYPE I

In the following statements, a situation has been explained in a few sentences followed by a conclusion. You have to say whether the conclusion:

- (a) necessarily follows from the statements.
- (b) is only a long drawn one.
- (c) definitely does not follow from the statements.
- (d) is doubtful as the data provided is inadequate.

Note: Your answers should only be in the light of the statements given.

Statements:

1. Some students ransacked a newspaper office.
2. They man-handled the Editor.

Conclusion: The Editor must have published something that infuriated them.

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐

Statements:

1. Country X has asked all the nationals of country Y to evacuate their country.
2. The nationals of other countries are living there as before.

Conclusion: The relations between countries X and Y are strained.

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐

Statements:

1. Doctors prescribe tranquilizers for heart patients.
2. The tranquilizers make them sleep all the time.

Conclusion: Heart patients do not get natural sleep.

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐

Statements:

1. Clearance sales offer items at a throw away price.
2. The same items are quite expensive in fresh stock.

Conclusion: All pieces offered in clearance sale are defective.

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐

Statements:

1. All the secretaries can type.
2. They know short-hand too.

Conclusion: They do not know any other thing.

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐

Statements:

1. Ads occupy a large space in newspapers.
2. All ads cost money to the party concerned.

Conclusion: Advertisements are a source of income to the newspaper.

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐

Statements:

1. Chain-smokers often develop cancer.
2. Mr Smith is a chain-smoker.

Conclusion: He will develop cancer.

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐

Statements:

1. Saints consider themselves to be an authority on God.
2. They constantly tell the sinners to fear God's wrath.

Conclusion: Sinners have no faith in God.

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐

Statements:

1. All cultural bodies are run by renowned artists.
2. Mr X is a renowned artist.

Conclusion: He runs a cultural body.

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐

Statements:

1. Ministers do not hold one portfolio for too long.
2. New portfolio means an entirely new type of working.

Conclusion: Minister know everything about every department.

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐

TYPE II

In making decisions about important questions, it is desirable to be able to distinguish between strong arguments and weak arguments so far as they are related to the question. Weak arguments may not be directly related to the question, may be of minor importance or may be related to some trivial aspect of the question. Each question given below is followed by arguments I and II. You have to decide which of the arguments is 'strong' and which is 'weak'. Then decide which of the answers given below and numbered (a), (b), (c), (d) and (e) is the correct answer.

- (a) Only I is strong.
- (b) Only II is strong.
- (c) Both I and II are strong.
- (d) Either I or II is strong.
- (e) Neither I nor II is strong.

11. Can psychiatrists treat maniacs permanently?

- I. Yes, they have all types of medicines.
 - II. No, the instincts keep on returning off and on.
- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

12. Is Mathematics a difficult subject?
 I. Yes, many students say so.
 II. No, the world has produced some excellent Mathematicians.
 (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐
13. Has the Mandal Commission widened the gap among different castes?
 I. Yes, it has resulted in various clashes among the supporters and the agitators.
 II. No, it will ultimately promote national brotherhood.
 (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐
14. Are patients more comfortable in hospital in comparison to their home?
 I. Yes, there is the whole paraphernalia of equipments and trained personnel to give them every possible comfort.
 II. No, the familiar surroundings of home and loving care of members of family are more comfortable.
 (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐
15. Is murder better than committing suicide?
 I. Yes, getting those who are responsible for problems out of way is better than sacrificing one's life for such useless persons.
 II. No, taking somebody's life or one's own life can never be right and there is always a third course to be taken.
 (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐
16. Should age of retirement be brought down?
 I. Yes, such a decision on the part of the government would open new job opportunities to youngsters.
 II. No, people often marry late and their children don't get settled early.
 (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐
17. Many shops were looted during student agitation. Were the students responsible for these loots?
 I. Yes, the students were carried away by the mob mentality.
 II. No, some anti-social elements took the advantage of the opportunity.
 (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐
18. Can India get better results in games and sports?
 I. Yes, there is no dearth of talent, what is needed is proper selection and practice.
 II. No, we are not as good as others, and by the time we get to their level, they go much ahead.
 (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐
19. Should parents play with their children?
 I. Yes, it helps in building up a healthy and much needed companionship between children and parents.
 II. No, children treat their parents like equals and there is no distance left.
 (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐
20. Are marriages based on well-matched horoscopes more successful than other marriages?
 I. Yes, there is no possibility of rifts or ups and

downs as the horoscopes have already been studied well.

II. No, such marriages are rather dull.

(a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

TYPE III

In questions given below, statements 1 and 2 are followed by conclusions I and II. Taking the statements to be true although they may appear at variance from commonly accepted facts, mark your answers as under:

(a) Only I follows.

(b) Only II follows.

(c) Both I and II follow.

(d) Either I or II follows. (e) Neither I nor II follows.

Statements:

21. 1. All books are cups.

2. All cups are spoons.

Conclusions:

I. All spoons are books.

II. Some books are not spoons.

(a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

Statements:

22. 1. All stones are bricks.

2. Some bricks are tiles.

Conclusions:

I. Some stones are tiles.

II. No stone is tile.

(a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

Statements:

23. 1. Only all high buildings are air-conditioned.

2. Some air-conditioners are noisy.

Conclusions:

I. Some high buildings are troubled with noisy air conditioners.

II. No low building is fitted with air-conditioner.

(a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

Statements:

24. 1. A lot of girls read romantic fiction.

2. Romantic fiction is full of adventures.

Conclusions:

I. Other books do not have adventures.

II. Some girls do not read romantic fiction.

(a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

Statements:

25. 1. Some cakes are biscuits.

2. Some biscuits are toffees.

Conclusions:

I. Some toffees are cakes.

II. Some biscuits are not cakes.

(a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

Statements:

26. 1. Some children are actors.

2. All actors are old.

Conclusions:

I. Some children are old.

II. Some children are not old.

(a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

Statements:

27. 1. All planets revolve.
2. All revolving bodies are flat.

Conclusions:

- I. All planets are flat.
 - II. There are revolving objects other than planets.
- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

Statements:

28. 1. All glasses are trays.
2. All mugs are trays.

Conclusions:

- I. No mug is a glass.
 - II. Some glasses are mugs.
- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

TYPE IV

In the following questions, a statement is followed by implications I and II. Tick-mark your answers as under:

Statement:

29. Our ships, carrying food for Indians stranded in Amman, were thoroughly checked by the U.N. security forces.

Implications:

- I. They suspected us of supplying arms to our nationals there.
 - II. The Government of that country is unable to provide our people over there with adequate supply of food.
- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

Statement:

30. Every new government opens certain inquiries about the previous one.

Implications:

- I. They want to establish an image of righting the wrong.
 - II. They want to degrade the previous government in the eyes of people.
- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

Statement:

31. Service of humanity is higher than any existing religion.

Implications:

- I. No religion talks about serving the humanity.
 - II. Persons engaged in social service have no faith in religion.
- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

Statement:

32. All newspapers these days are covered blood red with news of deaths and killings.

Implications:

- I. The whole world is disturbed.
 - II. Readers do not appreciate other items of news.
- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

Statement:

33. Land of strategic villages along the Indo-Pak bor-

der are being shifted to safer areas.

Implications:

- I. All the soil in the lands concerned would be transported to the other lands.
 - II. These villages would be occupied by the army as they are not safe for the villagers.
- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

Statement:

34. It was observed that the Janata Curfew was more effective than the curfew imposed by the authorities.

Implications:

- I. Voluntary arrangements are always more effective than imposed ones.
 - II. People are more frightened of volunteers than the Police.
- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

Statement:

35. In main markets of the city, there is one-way traffic from 9 A.M. to 11 A.M. and from 4 P.M. to 6 P.M.

Implications:

- I. Due to office timings, the traffic during these hours is rather heavy.
 - II. The traffic police cannot afford to be on duty all the time.
- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

TYPE V

In questions given below, assertion 'A' is followed by reasons RI and RII. Your task is to apply RI and RII to A and tick mark your answers as under:

- (a) Only RI is the reason for A.
- (b) Only RII is the reason for A.
- (c) Both RI and RII are the reasons for A.
- (d) Either RI or RII is the reason for A.
- (e) Neither RI nor RII is the reason for A.

36. A. The Lok Sanchar Seva is trying to instruct through T.V. media the ways of saving fuel.

RI. If one uses too much fuel, the food gets burnt or over-cooked.

RII. Not using fuel economically means a national wastage.

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

37. A. In most of the stories, good triumphs over evil.

RI. The readers feel happy with a poetic justice.

RII. In real life too, good triumphs over evil.

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

38. A. Rag-picking children are generally suspected of committing thefts.

RI. They are very poor.

RII. We do not know much about them and so are rather suspicious.

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

39. A. Every country has jails for criminals.

RI. They are a means of isolating the criminals from decent society.

RII. They discourage them from committing

crime and try to reform them.

- (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐
40. A. Motor-car racing is a dangerous sport.
 R1. There are too many cars on the track.
 R2. There is much chance of getting injured or being killed.
 (a) ☐ (b) ☐ (c) ☐ (d) ☐ (e) ☐

TYPE VI

At the end of the passage given below, some conclusions have been drawn. On the basis of the study of the paragraph, mark your answers as under:

- A. Definitely true.
 B. Probably true.
 C. Can't say as the data provided is inadequate.
 D. Probably false.
 E. Definitely false.

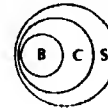
Our country has had a National Integration Council for the past three decades or so. Originally conceived by Mr Jawahar Lal Nehru as a non-legal, non-official body of eminent citizens from all walks of life, the Integration Council aimed at countering the fissiparous tendencies that had become noticeable even in the early years of the Indian Republic. The Council, Nehru hoped, would by stressing the urgency of national integration and taking all possible measures, effectively promote the sense of national integration among the various groups and communities. Its relevance became particularly great in times of national crisis.

41. There were no communal clashes prior to 1960s.
 A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐
42. The Integration Council is a regular government body now.
 A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐
43. Mr Nehru made several attempts to bring members of different castes and creed under one brotherhood.
 A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐
44. Every member of the Integration Council, formed by Mr Nehru, was rich.
 A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐
45. Whenever there were serious differences between two groups, the members of the Council were there to help and advice.
 A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐

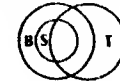
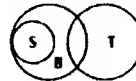
ANSWERS AND EXPLANATIONS

1. (a) There is a natural cause and effect relationship between the statements and the conclusion.
2. (a) Since only nationals of X have been ordered to go, the conclusion is obvious.
3. (b) The conclusion is based on general assumption, the tranquilizers may have other effects as well; hence, a long drawn conclusion.
4. (d) The items of the clearance sale have not been clearly defined.
5. (c) The statements are concerned with only two of the many assets so the conclusion is a wrong one.
6. (a) The conclusion is evident.
7. (d) The word 'often' makes the conclusion doubtful.

8. (c) The approach is a negative one.
9. (b) It is not stated that every renowned artist runs some cultural body or the other, hence a long drawn conclusion.
10. (c) The conclusion is a wrong one.
11. (d) Only one of the two is possible.
12. (e) Both are weak.
13. (a) The second is just an assumption.
14. (c) Both are strong in their own way.
15. (b) The first is the argument of a hot headed impulsive mind.
16. (c) Both are strong.
17. (b) The first is related to a trivial aspect.
18. (d) Either could happen.
19. (a) The second one is not directly connected with the question.
20. (e) Neither of the arguments is convincing.
21. (e) The diagram explains the reason why both I and II are wrong



22. (d) All the possibilities have been represented by the diagrams, hence only 'd' is possible.



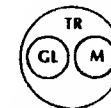
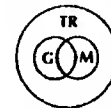
23. (a) The second one is wrong as only high buildings are air-conditioned.
24. (b) First one is not confirmed.
25. (c) There are three possibilities, hence neither could be confirmed.



26. (c) Both I and II are right.



27. (a) Only I is confirmed.
28. (d) Only one of the conclusions is right



29. (c) 30. (c) 31. (e) 32. (a)
33. (b) 34. (a) 35. (a) 36. (b)
37. (a) 38. (b) 39. (c) 40. (b)
41. A. The passage mentions disturbance just after the year of Republic.
42. C. No mention has been made of the present set up of this organization.
43. B. One has already been mentioned so there must have been others as well.
44. D. Eminent citizens do not always mean rich citizens so the conclusion is probably a wrong one.
45. A. It was their responsibility, hence a true conclusion.

Quantitative Aptitude

The questions given below were set in BSRB P.O.s examination held on the 14th Sept. 1990.

We are grateful to Mr Amar Singh of Gonda (M.S.) for sending these questions to us.

Q. 1. to 15. What should come in place of the question mark (?) in the following questions?

1. $\frac{(12^2 - 8^2) \times 10}{20 \times 2} = ?$
 (a) 20 (b) 10 (c) 12.4 (d) 5
2. $\sqrt{7} - 3 = 19$
 (a) 529 (b) 22 (c) 441 (d) 21
 (e) None of these
3. $\sqrt{121} + ? = 1569 + 74$
 (a) 1643 (b) 1654 (c) 1522 (d) 1622
 (e) None of these
4. $48.48 \div 1.2 + 0.8 = ?$
 (a) 41.0 (b) 41.2 (c) 24.24 (d) 4.84
5. $100 \times 0.2 + 0.01 \times 1000 + 110 = ?$
 (a) 112 (b) 124 (c) 122 (d) 132
 (e) None of these
6. $6878 + 1192 - ? = 9180$
 (a) 1110 (b) 1100 (c) 1000 (d) 900
7. $2\frac{1}{6} + 4\frac{2}{3} + 1\frac{2}{3} = ?$
 (a) $7\frac{5}{6}$ (b) $8\frac{1}{2}$ (c) $7\frac{1}{2}$ (d) $8\frac{5}{3}$
8. $\frac{24}{18} = \frac{?}{6}$
 (a) 9 (b) 4 (c) 8 (d) 10
9. $\frac{96}{4} \div ? = 6$
 (a) $\frac{12}{6}$ (b) $\frac{8}{4}$ (c) $\frac{18}{6}$ (d) $\frac{20}{5}$
10. $\frac{48 - 12 \times 3 + 9}{12 - 9 \div 3} = ?$
 (a) $\frac{21}{9}$ (b) 21 (c) 3 (d) $\frac{1}{3}$
 (e) None of these
11. $5538 + 83 + 348 = ?$
 (a) 5959 (b) 5869 (c) 5859 (d) 5969
12. $0.008 + 0.02 = ?$
 (a) 4 (b) 0.4 (c) 0.04 (d) 0.004
13. $9842 - 300 + 42 = ?$
 (a) 9584 (b) 10100 (c) 9454 (d) 9500
14. $144 \div 12 - 12 = ?$
 (a) 12 (b) 24 (c) 6 (d) 0
15. $? \% \text{ of } 150 + 250 = 280$
 (a) 30 (b) 10 (c) 20 (d) 40

16-20. In the questions given below find out which of the alternatives is the approximate value? (You are NOT expected to find out the exact value.)

16. Rita is to wrap 121 packets in cloth. If she requires 2.47 metres for each packet, what will be her approximate requirement?
 (a) 265 m (b) 285 m (c) 300 m (d) 315 m
 (e) 325 m
17. If the price of 10 gram of gold is Rs 4400, what will be the approximate price of 11.2 gm?
 (a) 49300 (b) 4925 (c) 4000 (d) 4500
 (e) 4900
18. 20 millilitre of fine oil is extracted out of 1 litre of crude oil. How much fine oil will be extracted out of 990 litre of crude oil?
 (a) 19 litre (b) 19 litre (c) 190 litre
 (d) 19000 litre (e) 20,000 litre
19. A person has travelled a distance of 137 km. If he has to pay Rs 11 for each 50 km, what will be his approximate total fare?
 (a) Rs 25 (b) Rs 27 (c) Rs 30 (d) Rs 33
 (e) Rs 35
20. By mistake a 100 gram packet of seeds is weighed less by 8 gram. What will be the total loss to a customer who has purchased 697 kg?
 (a) 60 kg (b) 55 kg (c) 50 kg
 (d) 45 kg (e) 40 kg
- 21-25. In each of the following number series, a wrong number is given. Find out that number.
21. 2, 5, 18, 19, 24, 29, 34
 (a) 5 (b) 18 (c) 19 (d) 24 (e) 29
22. 2, 4, 4, 16, 8, 256, 64
 (a) 2 (b) 16 (c) 8 (d) 256 (e) 64
23. 2, 58, 11, 48, 19, 40, 28
 (a) 58 (b) 11 (c) 48 (d) 19 (e) 40
24. 455, 445, 465, 435, 485, 415, 475
 (a) 455 (b) 465 (c) 485 (d) 415
 (e) 475
25. 570, 567, 561, 549, 526, 477, 381
 (a) 570 (b) 561 (c) 526 (d) 477
 (e) 381
26. How much 11% of 22.2 is less than 10% of 24.4?
 (a) 0.2 (b) 0.02 (c) 0.002
 (d) 0.00002 (e) None of these
27. Kiran earns 50% of Raghu's wages. Raghu earns 80% of Dinesh's wages. If total monthly wages of all the three is Rs 22,000, what amount does Kiran earn in that month?
 (a) Rs 8,000 (b) Rs 6,000 (c) Rs 11,000
 (d) Rs 4,000 (e) None of these

OBJECTIVE-TYPE QUESTIONS

28. Five years ago Vinney's age was one-third of the age of Vikas and now Vinney's age is 17 years. What is the present age of Vikas?

- (a) 41 (b) 36 (c) 9 (d) 51

29. Balu started his journey on car from Cochin to Trivandrum at 11 A.M. He travelled at the speed of 60 km per hour and covered half the distance in two hours. At what average speed he should travel now to reach Trivandrum at 4 P.M.?

- (a) 50 km/hr (b) 40 km/hr (c) 35 km/hr
(d) Data inadequate (e) None of these

30. Janki spends 20% of her monthly salary on her son's education. Next month when she is to get an increment of Rs 170 in her salary, she intends to spend half of this too on her son's education. In that case her total expenditure will be Rs 645. What is her present salary?

- (a) Rs 3225 (b) Rs 600 (c) Rs 2800
(d) Rs 2970 (e) None of these

31. In a zoo there are 150 monkeys in the monkeys' cage. Of these one-third are elder monkeys. If an elder monkey needs 2800 gram of food in one week and a younger monkey requires one-fourth of it, how much food is required for all the monkeys each day?

- (a) 210 kg (b) 30 kg (c) 315 kg (d) 40 kg

32. A cloth merchant has announced 25% rebate in prices. If one needs to have a rebate of Rs 40, then how many shirts costing Rs 28 each he should purchase?

- (a) 6 (b) 5 (c) 10 (d) 7

33. Arun buys a shirt for Rs 180. He buys a *kurta* which costs two-thirds the price of the shirt and a saree for his wife which costs $2\frac{1}{2}$ times the price of *kurta*. How much did he spend in all?

- (a) Rs 480 (b) Rs 560 (c) Rs 750
(d) Rs 600

34-38. Study the following table carefully and answer the questions given below:

Details of Letters Sent in the Months of January-June, 1990

MONTH	ORDINARY POST		REGD. POST		SPEED POST	
	No.	Amount	No.	Amount	No.	Amount
Jan.	372	223	114	724	22	660
Feb.	467	280	171	1060	38	1856
Mar	2422	1914	169	1048	28	840
Apr.	516	310	213	1193	126	3780
May	398	239	147	823	49	1568
June	419	251	182	1132	37	1184

34. In which month is the total expenses on postage the highest?

- (a) May (b) April (c) March
(d) February (e) January

35. The expected number of articles to be despatched by speed post in July is 52. What will be the approximate expenditure on these?

- (a) Rs 2000 (b) Rs 1500 (c) Rs 1200
(d) Rs 1100 (e) Rs 1000

36. In which month there was minimum amount of expenditure on ordinary post?

- (a) March (b) April (c) May
(d) Data incomplete (e) None of these

37. In how many months in the given period, expenditure on registered post dak was more than the amount spent separately on each of the other two modes of despatch?

- (a) 1 (b) 2 (c) 3 (d) 4

38. How many times approximately the amount spent on ordinary dak in the month of March is more than the minimum amount spent on speed post?

- (a) 1 (b) 2 (c) 3 (d) 4
(e) 5

ANSWERS & EXPLANATIONS

- (a)
- (e) Ans. 484
- (e) Ans. 1632
- (b)
- (e) Ans. 140
- (a)
- (b)
- (c)
- (d)
- (d)
- (b)
- (d)
- (d)
- (c)
- (c)
- (b)
- (e)
- (c)
- (b)
- (d) Taking the alternate numbers,
 $(8 \times 2) + 2 = 18$; $(8 \times 3) + 2 = 26$;
 $(8 \times 4) + 2 = 34$. Hence 24 is wrong.
 The other series is:
 $(5 \times 4) - 1 = 19$; $(5 \times 6) - 1 = 29$.
- (e) One series is: $2 \times 2 = 4$; $4 \times 2 = 8$; $8 \times 2 = 16$
 Hence 64 is wrong. The other series is:
 $(4)^2 = 16$, $(16)^2 = 256$.
- (a) One series is: $2 + 9 = 11$; $11 + 8 = 19$; $19 + 9 = 28$.
 The other is: $40 + 8 = 48$; $48 + 9 = 57$. Hence 58 is wrong.
- (e) One series is: $455 + 10 = 465$; $465 + 20 = 485$;
 $485 + 30 = 515$. Hence 475 is wrong.
 The other is $445 - 10 = 435$; $435 - 20 = 415$.
- (c) The series is $570 - 3 = 567$; $567 - 6 = 561$;
 $561 - 12 = 549$; $549 - 24 = 525$; and so on.
 Here 526 is wrong.
- (c)
- (d)
- (a)
- (b)
- (d) Total expenditure = 645
 $\frac{1}{2}$ of the increment = 85
 $645 - 85 = 560$
 Rs 560 is 20% or one-fifth of Janki's salary
 Her salary before increment = $560 \times 5 = 2800$
 Her present salary = $2800 + 170 = 2970$
- (b)
- (a)
- (d)
- (b)
- (a)
- (e)
- (a)
- (c)

ENGLISH LANGUAGE

* There is a grammatical error in one part (1, 2, 3 and 4) each of the following sentences. Find out the error. In case there is no error, the answer is 5.

1. The degradation of the Mughal Empire (1) prompted the governors of Bengal (2) to declare themselves (3) virtually independent from Delhi rule (4). No error (5).

2. Some international organisations (1) have deputed doctors and nurses to look after the (2) inmates but their numbers (3) is far too small to cope with the requirements (4). No error (5).

3. A happy man or woman (1) is a better (2) thing to find (3) than a five rupees note (4). No error (5).

4. Yet every subject (1) struck to my mind (2) at an angle (3) that produced reflection new (4) to my audience. No error (5).

5. No one can (1) bully me into liking what (2) I do not like, and I should never try to bully anyone else (3) into liking what he did not like (4). No error (5).

6. Proper respect for (1) the achievements of others may not be easy (2) in this competitive world but it is after all (3) the first step towards a broad mind (4). No error (5).

7. Taylor's professional life (1) illustrates the gap in attitudes (2) that lies between (3) the groves of academic and world of the common man (4). No error (5).

8. Although the prescriptions (1) appear utopian and impracticable, (2) they are likely to strike deep chord (3) in a country seeking revival of national pride and a new identity (4). No error (5).

* Choose the most suitable 'one word' for the following expressions:

9. An office or a post with no work but high pay.

- (a) honorary
- (b) sinecure
- (c) ex-officio
- (d) gratis

10. Vigilant and cautious observation of events.

- (a) circumspection
- (b) meticulous
- (c) anxious
- (d) thorough

11. A person who does not believe in any religion.

- (a) atheist
- (b) non-believer
- (c) rationalist
- (d) pagan

12. The act of looking back upon past events, experiences.

- (a) retrospection
- (b) historical
- (c) critical
- (d) analysis

13. The one who deserts his religion.

- (a) turn-coat
- (b) opportunist
- (c) apostate
- (d) deserter

* From the four alternatives given below each idiom, select the one that brings out the meaning of the idiom.

14. by the skin of one's teeth:

- (a) only just
- (b) hardly
- (c) in time
- (d) hurriedly

15. to hold something in leash:

- (a) to discourage
- (b) to disappoint
- (c) to dismiss
- (d) to restrain

16. to cross swords:

- (a) to kill
- (b) to fight
- (c) to rob
- (d) to defend

17. to show the white feather:

- (a) to seek peace
- (b) to become polite
- (c) to show signs of cowardice
- (d) to show arrogance

18. a baker's dozen:

- (a) twelve
- (b) charity
- (c) allowance
- (d) thirteen

19. to pull one's socks up:

- (a) to try hard
- (b) to get ready
- (c) to depart
- (d) to prepare

20. to keep up appearances:

- (a) to become pompous
- (b) to become conspicuous
- (c) to maintain outward show
- (d) to maintain inner peace

* In the following questions (21 and 22) the sentences (A, B, C and D) are not in their proper sequence. Read them carefully and arrange them in their natural sequence so that the arrangement makes a meaningful/natural prose passage.

21. 1. Modernity or modernism isn't something we've just invented.

A. — have been modern.

B. just as leaves in autumn are yellow,

C. it is something that comes at the end of civilization.

D. so the women at the end of every known civilization — Roman, Greek, Egyptian, etc.

6. They were smart, they were chic.

(a) CBAD

(b) CADB

(c) DBAC

(d) CBDA

22. 1. We are apt to lose ourselves

A. like the communal problem,

B. as we have indeed done, in petty conflicts and minor questions

C. and forget the major issues;

D. we are apt to waste our energy (like our moderate friends do)

6. in interminable discussions over legal quibbles and constitutional questions.

(a) BDAC

(b) BCDA

(c) BACD

(d) DABC

* Choose the word/words most appropriate in meaning to the following

OBJECTIVE-TYPE QUESTIONS

words in *italics*:

23. *format*:
 (a) shape (b) formula
 (c) solution (d) formal
24. *foray*:
 (a) rapid (b) rough
 (c) raid (d) rare
25. *motif*:
 (a) pattern (b) motive
 (c) patron (d) master
26. *melee*:
 (a) mixture
 (b) haste
 (c) confused crowd
 (d) worry
27. *graffiti*:
 (a) poetry
 (b) prose
 (c) painting
 (d) drawings
28. *niche*:
 (a) destination
 (b) suitable position
 (c) destiny
 (d) ambition

* From the choices given below each word in *italics*, choose the word/words opposite in meaning:

29. *escalate*:
 (a) heal (b) lessen
 (c) reduce (d) subside
30. *absolute*:
 (a) distant
 (b) near
 (c) relation
 (d) relative
31. *ebb*:
 (a) flow (b) fly
 (c) roar (d) cry
32. *boom*:
 (a) bang
 (b) knock
 (c) recession
 (d) depression
33. *illusion*:
 (a) solid
 (b) reality
 (c) rigid
 (d) factual
34. *tenuous*:
 (a) stormy
 (b) strong
 (c) courageous
 (d) circular

* Read the following sentences carefully and by selecting the most suitable word from the choices given

below each sentence, fill in the blanks:

35. Man, poor, conscious, forever-animal man, has a very _____ destiny,
 (a) stern (b) strict
 (c) rigid (d) hard
36. from which he is never allowed to _____.
 (a) run away (b) escape
 (c) hurry (d) rest
37. It is his destiny that he must move on and _____, in the thought-adventure.
 (a) on (b) off
 (c) into (d) up
38. He is a thought-adventurer, and adventure he _____.
 (a) should (b) ought to
 (c) must (d) may
39. The moment he _____ himself a house and begins
 (a) makes
 (b) constructs
 (c) builds
 (d) finds
40. to think he can sit _____ in his knowledge, his soul becomes deranged.
 (a) contented
 (b) quiet
 (c) satisfied
 (d) still
- * Read the following passage carefully and select the best answer to the questions.
- However, to produce the complete man with that balanced sense of obligation and understanding. We need to know much more about man himself. Our knowledge of science, the classics, or medicine is beautifully documented, indexed, and ordered. We may not know everything about the subject, but what is known is neatly bound. I imagine that is why we sometimes call this an age of reason, but we forget that—in the midst of all that reasonable knowledge—man himself remains as unreasonable, irrational, and unpredictable as ever.
41. To produce a 'complete man' we need:
 (a) a balanced sense
 (b) obligation and understanding
 (c) more knowledge about man
 (d) knowledge of science,

classics and medicine.

42. Ours is an age of:
 (a) reason
 (b) reasonable knowledge
 (c) control over nature
 (d) documentation, index and order
43. How is the man himself?
 (a) unreasonable
 (b) irrational
 (c) unpredictable
 (d) none of the above exclusively
44. 'unpredictable' means:
 (a) that cannot be foretold
 (b) that cannot be changed
 (c) that cannot be improved
 (d) that cannot be taught

ANSWERS

- (4) 'independent of' is the correct usage.
 - (3) 'number' instead of numbers because number as singular stands for plural i.e. doctors and nurses e.g. a number of people, etc.
 - (4) 'a five rupee note', 'a five pound note', 'a five dollar note' etc is the correct usage.
 - (2) the preposition 'to' after 'struck' is redundant. Therefore it should be deleted.
 - (5) No error.
 - (1) 'a proper respect' is the correct usage.
 - (4) definite article 'the' should precede the noun 'world'. Therefore and the world of the common man is the correct expression.
 - (2) 'utopian and impractical'—both stand for an unrealistic approach i.e. prescriptions in the sentence under reference.
- | | | |
|---------|---------|---------|
| 9. (b) | 10. (a) | 11. (d) |
| 12. (a) | 13. (c) | 14. (a) |
| 15. (d) | 16. (b) | 17. (c) |
| 18. (d) | 19. (a) | 20. (c) |
| 21. (d) | 22. (c) | 23. (a) |
| 24. (c) | 25. (a) | 26. (c) |
| 27. (d) | 28. (b) | 29. (d) |
| 30. (d) | 31. (a) | 32. (c) |
| 33. (b) | 34. (b) | 35. (a) |
| 36. (b) | 37. (a) | 38. (c) |
| 39. (c) | 40. (d) | 41. (c) |
| 42. (a) | 43. (d) | 44. (a) |

GENERAL AWARENESS

The questions given below were set in a State Public Service Commission examination held recently.

1. Peri Sastri is associated with:
 - (a) Planning Commission
 - (b) Election Commission
 - (c) Bofors Commission
 - (d) Thakkar Commission
2. The 40th President of U.S.A. was:
 - (a) George Bush
 - (b) Jimmy Carter
 - (c) Ronald Reagan
 - (d) Richard Nixon
 - (e) None of these
3. The first Field Marshal of India was:
 - (a) K.M. Cariappa
 - (b) A. Vaidya
 - (c) Sunderji
 - (d) S.H.F.J. Manckshaw
 - (e) None of these
4. The first President of U.S.A. to visit India was:
 - (a) D.W. Eisenhower
 - (b) John F. Kennedy
 - (c) George Washington
 - (d) Thomas Jefferson
 - (e) None of these
5. One of the main sources of income for local authorities is:
 - (a) taxes on income
 - (b) taxes on commodities
 - (c) taxes on property
 - (d) taxes on expenditure
 - (e) None of these
6. Modern economy is one of:
 - (a) cash economy
 - (b) planned economy
 - (c) credit economy
 - (d) open economy
 - (e) None of these
7. The law of diminishing returns is applicable to:
 - (a) agriculture
 - (b) manufacturing industry
 - (c) mining
 - (d) all the above
8. Public enterprises are given priority in India to:
 - (a) reduce the importance of private sector
 - (b) establish socialistic pattern of society
 - (c) have an equitable distribution of wealth
 - (d) remove the regional disparities
 - (e) None of these
9. Sub-division and fragmentation of land resulted in:
 - (a) enormous wastage of land owing to boundaries
 - (b) uneconomic holdings
 - (c) destruction of enterprise
 - (d) all the above
 - (e) None of these
10. Additional Dearness Allowance is granted by the Government on the basis of increase in:
 - (a) wholesale price index
 - (b) consumer price index
 - (c) price of food stuffs
 - (d) rate of inflation
 - (e) None of these
11. Shifting of tax burden is possible in the case of:
 - (a) income tax
 - (b) property tax
 - (c) sales tax
 - (d) capital gains tax
 - (e) None of these
12. Economic growth is generally measured in terms of:
 - (a) Urban employment
 - (b) Rural development
 - (c) Improvement in the balance of payments
 - (d) National income
 - (e) None of these
13. The super collider project based on super conductivity technology has been developed by:
 - (a) U.S.S.R.
 - (b) U.S.A.
 - (c) German Democratic Republic
 - (d) France
 - (e) None of these
14. Yawning is due to:
 - (a) accumulation of carbon dioxide in the body
 - (b) to feel relaxed
 - (c) to ease digestion
 - (d) to ward off lethargy
 - (e) None of these
15. The three tier growth of vegetation is found in the:
 - (a) Deciduous regions
 - (b) Coniferous forest regions
 - (c) Savannah regions
 - (d) Equatorial regions
 - (e) None of these
16. ICOMOS – International Council for Monuments and Sites – a wing of UNESCO, recently included this monument as world heritage. Which is the one?
 - (a) Khajuraho of Madhya Pradesh
 - (b) The Bradheshwarar Temple of Tamil Nadu
 - (c) The Sanchi Stupa
 - (d) None of these
17. The protests against the Narmada Valley Project had been most widespread in:
 - (a) Hoshangabad
 - (b) New Delhi
 - (c) Bhopal
 - (d) Harsud
 - (e) None of these
18. The salary of the Chief Justice and the other Judges of the Supreme Court of India:
 - (a) can be reduced during the National Emergency
 - (b) can be reduced during the Financial Emergency
 - (c) can be reduced by the Parliament
 - (d) cannot be reduced under any circumstances
 - (e) None of these
19. Which of the following is a

OBJECTIVE-TYPE QUESTIONS

- missile?
 (a) Sea King -
 (b) Sea Harrier
 (c) Sea Eagle
 (d) Sea Stallion
 (e) None of these
20. Which among the following is least prone to fire?
 (a) Rayon
 (b) Cotton
 (c) Terry cotton
 (d) Nylon
 (e) None of these
21. Milk is an example of:
 (a) suspension
 (b) gel
 (c) emulsion -
 (d) None of these
22. Sodium is always kept in:
 (a) water
 (b) kerosene
 (c) acid
 (d) base -
 (e) None of these
23. What is heavy water?
 (a) water with dissolved impurities
 (b) water cooled under pressure
 (c) water formed by deuterium and oxygen
 (d) water used as a moderator in some nuclear reactors
 (e) None of these
24. Which is most important for the growth of children?
 (a) proteins
 (b) vitamins
 (c) fats
 (d) milk
 (e) None of these
25. Cotton fibre is rooted from:
 (a) stem
 (b) leaf
 (c) fruit
 (d) seed
 (e) None of these
26. What is lost during dehydration?
 (a) Sodium chloride.
 (b) Potassium chloride
 (c) Calcium chloride
 (d) Magnesium chloride
 (e) None of these
27. Hormones are useful for:
 (a) metabolic function -
 (b) digestion and reproduction
 (c) energy production
 (d) preventing disease
 (e) None of these
28. Milk is a poor source of:
 (a) iron
 (b) calcium
 (c) protein
 (d) vitamin
 (e) None of these
29. People suffer from diabetes due to lack of:
 (a) iodine
 (b) insulin
 (c) iron
 (d) calcium
 (e) None of these
30. Salk vaccine is used against:
 (a) tuberculosis
 (b) small-pox
 (c) polio
 (d) measles
 (e) None of these
31. Agronomy means:
 (a) science of soil and plants
 (b) science of space
 (c) science of environment
 (d) science of forestry
 (e) None of these
32. Leprosy is treated by:
 (a) Erythromycin
 (b) Tetracycline
 (c) Sulphones
 (d) Penicillin
 (e) None of these
33. Heparin is used for:
 (a) white corpuscle formation
 (b) loss of blood
 (c) red corpuscle formation
 (d) clotting of blood
 (e) None of these
34. Urea is excreted through:
 (a) kidneys
 (b) intestine
 (c) skin
 (d) lungs
 (e) None of these
35. Gas evolved during photosynthesis is:
 (a) carbon dioxide.
 (b) hydrogen
 (c) oxygen
 (d) nitrogen
 (e) None of these
36. In metabolism, enzymes act as:
 (a) promoter
 (b) catalyst
 (c) oxidant
 (d) reductant
 (e) None of these
37. The surface temperature of the sun is:
 (a) 10,000° C
 (b) 5,212° C
 (c) 400° C
 (d) 6,000° C
 (e) None of these
38. Wave theory of light was propounded by:
 (a) Plank
 (b) Newton
 (c) Maxwell
 (d) Huygens
 (e) None of these
39. Material used to manufacture springs is:
 (a) copper
 (b) brass
 (c) tempered steel
 (d) stainless steel
 (e) None of these
40. Saliva in man is:
 (a) alkaline
 (b) acidic
 (c) neutral
 (d) None of these

ANSWERS

- | | | |
|---------|---------|---------|
| 1. (b) | 2. (c) | 3. (d) |
| 4. (a) | 5. (c) | 6. (c) |
| 7. (d) | 8. (b) | 9. (b) |
| 10. (b) | 11. (d) | 12. (d) |
| 13. (b) | 14. (a) | 15. (c) |
| 16. (c) | 17. (a) | 18. (d) |
| 19. (a) | 20. (b) | 21. (c) |
| 22. (d) | 23. (d) | 24. (a) |
| 25. (d) | 26. (a) | 27. (a) |
| 28. (a) | 29. (b) | 30. (c) |
| 31. (a) | 32. (c) | 33. (d) |
| 34. (a) | 35. (a) | 36. (a) |
| 37. (d) | 38. (d) | 39. (c) |
| 40. (a) | | |

Descriptive Questions

The following are the answers to the questions set in Part B (Descriptive) for the Banking Service Recruitment Board Examination recently.

Health and Wealth

Q. 1. Health is Wealth: Give two examples to prove this statement.

Ans. Not even the most incorrigible cynics would question the eternal truth of the statement that "health is wealth". Good health and a fine physique are invaluable assets; in fact, all sensible people would go to any length to ensure their own and their children's physical fitness.

1. When a person falls ill, and has necessarily to consult a physician and undergo prolonged medical treatment in a private clinic or in a good hospital, he or she has to incur considerable expenditure. This expenditure erodes a good part of the assets acquired during the period when one is quite healthy and disease-free. Thus, continued good health enables a person to earn wealth, in small or large measure, while ill-health leads to expenditure on medicines and takes away part of the acquired wealth.

2. Of what use is wealth to an ailing, disease-stricken person? He cannot enjoy the pleasures and conveniences money helps to buy. It is during bouts of illness that a person deplores his neglect of elementary rules of health and concentration on earning money anyhow, working overtime, until late at night, just for supplementing one's income as much as possible. If health has been lost in the all-out endeavour to earn money, almost everything is lost. One can never enjoy life nor serve one's fellow-men in distress if one is ill or broken in mind, body and spirit. Only physically fit people can perform their duties earnestly and in full

measure.

Q. 2. If the colour of milk be the same as that of water, what will happen then? Give three consequences.

Ans. Several interesting, and possibly dismal, consequences would follow if the colour of milk becomes the same as that of water.

1. It would be almost impossible to distinguish milk from water. All categories of milkmen, including the increasing tribe of those who supply milk to their customers at their doorsteps, would perhaps be the biggest beneficiaries. They supply heavily adulterated milk anyway (sometimes it is about 50 per cent water). Under cover of milk supplies, they would supply pure water and charge their customers the price of milk.

2. At present those who mix milk with water and fleece their customers are liable to be caught by inspectors who can take random samples on the roadside or from shops, test the milk with a simple device which shows the quantity of water in the milk. But if milk and water are of the same colour, it would be difficult for any checking staff to catch the adulterators who would have a merry time. The plight of the hapless consumer can well be imagined in such circumstances.

3. Housewives and mothers would be put to considerable inconvenience; pots and pans containing milk would be difficult to distinguish from those containing water. Women might boil water instead of milk; turn, or rather try to turn, water into curds or buttermilk mistaking it for milk; serve water to the children instead of milk (those children who dislike milk would have the last laugh at the persuasive efforts of their mothers in an attempt to make them drink milk because of the nourishment it is sup-

posed to provide).

4. Words, idioms and phrases such as "milkmaid", "crying over spilt milk", milk bar, milk-shake, milkwhite, milk-churn etc would all need to be abandoned for it would be water instead of milk in these cases.

Problem of Under-employment

Q. 3. Under-employment is a big problem in India. Give three reasons for it.

Ans. With a huge working force, estimated at 24.5 crore (36.78 per cent of the country's total population), vast backward and undeveloped regions and an inadequate infrastructure elsewhere, it is not surprising that there is considerable unemployment and under-employment in the country. The number of jobs available is limited and even in the public and private sectors put together there are not enough employment opportunities to keep everyone fully employed round the year. The under-employed are those who are only partly employed, that is, for a short time during the day or night and who remain idle during the major part of the year. Many of the under-employed are casual labourers who are able to earn only a small wage because there is not enough work for them.

Among the causes of under-employment in the country are:

(a) In most cases it is the inadequately qualified, illiterate, unskilled and untrained people who remain jobless or are able to get only a part-time job. As a result, these people are unable to make both ends meet. Their plight is pathetic; their families live below the poverty-line.

(b) There are many shrewd owners of small or medium-size entrepreneurs who employ only part-

time workers in order to save themselves from the rigours of the series of labour and factory laws on the statute-book. Besides, these dishonest employers dispense with the services of even temporary, part-time hands so that they can employ new persons on lower starting salaries. Since the dismissed employees have not secured any contracts or commitments of any kind from their employers, they are not in a position to demand compensation or any amount on which they can fall back upon during the period they are jobless, partly or wholly.

(c) The magnitude of the problem of under-employed and unemployed can be judged from the following facts the effect of which is persistent and constantly increasing under-employment. Government estimate of the backlog of unemployed is 28 million; in the 1990s an additional labour force of 80 million will enter the market in search of employment. These numbers exceed the whole population of many European countries put together. The fast increasing population and slow economic development worsens the position.

All the loud talk of making the "Right to Work" a fundamental right sounds hollow in the context of the harsh reality – far too many job seekers and too few jobs available. The large number of sick industries makes matters worse. At times even part-time jobs cannot be had. In disturbed times or when there are reckless killings by terrorists, migrant labour from U.P. and Bihar who were engaged in harvesting and sowing seasons in Punjab (in itself part time employment) prefer to stay under-employed in their own States.

Compulsory Uniforms

Q. 4. Uniform should be made compulsory in colleges. Give three arguments in favour and three against this view.

Ans. At present, students of most of the well-established and upper category schools, including

convents and public schools, are required to wear uniform. There are very few colleges which require their students to wear uniforms while attending their classes and engaging themselves in other activity in the premises of their institutions.

Arguments in favour

1. Students of the same college, especially if it has established a name for academic or other excellence, would feel a sense of pride and honour on wearing a uniform with a badge of distinction, setting them apart from students of other less important institutions.

2. Wearing the prescribed uniform easily removes the artificial distinction between the rich students, who come dressed in fine and well-tailored modern, up-to-date, fashionable clothes, and those who belong to lower middle class or poor families and can afford only ordinary clothes – and these too without variety or change. As things are, well-dressed students belonging to rich families begin to regard themselves as superior and generally do not mix freely with those students who are not well dressed and manage with just ordinary shirts and trousers. The latter are often gripped by inferiority complex. A uniform would help solve these problems and inculcate a sense of equality.

3. If at any inter-college sports or other type of contests (such as debates) there is trouble, including indiscipline of any kind, students wearing the uniform of a particular college can be easily identified and taken to task. Students without uniform become difficult to discipline because they are in effect a motley unmanageable crowd.

4. Everyone would agree that students wearing the same uniform on a college campus present a pleasing sight; the same colour and pattern of blazers, for instance, create an atmosphere of camaraderie and a spirit of fellowship, without any distinction. That would be all to the good; it would promote harmony.

Arguments against the View

1. College education is expensive and thousands of parents cannot afford to pay the college fees and bear other expenditure with considerable difficulty. Many of them are even compelled to borrow money from various sources to pay the expenses of educating their sons and daughters in colleges and universities. The expenditure on uniforms would needlessly add to the parents' financial burdens.

2. Most of the colleges are co-educational. It would be very difficult to prescribe a uniform for girl students. Some girls wear "Salwar-Kameez", others wear sarees, while still others in modern times put on jeans. There is bound to be resentment against any particular type of uniform that is not acceptable to all girls and their parents. Girl students would be denied choice and variety (some are fond of a daily change) which they love.

3. At present there is a wide variety of apparel among males: Some students wear bush-shirts, others favour full-sleeve shirts, and still others like to wear T-shirts which are of many colours. The multi-coloured dresses of boys and girls present a pleasing variety. The compulsory uniforms would certainly introduce dullness; lack of taste, design and colour and also of aesthetics.

4. There is a difference regarding the social and political awareness between school children and college students. The more sensitive and politically conscious college students, at the instance of certain non-co-operative political parties, might even challenge any order of the Principal making a particular uniform compulsory describing it as against the spirit and letter of the Constitution which guarantees freedom of thought, expression, belief and mode of living to every individual. There might be many writs in High Courts against an order for a uniform. There is trouble enough in the country at present; why bring in another controversy?

THE EXAMINER'S GUESS QUESTIONS

Q. Who has been elected as the next President of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association (CPA)?

Ans. Lok Sabha Speaker Mr Rabi Ray. India will host the 1991 CPA Conference in New Delhi.

Q. Where will be the 1996 Olympic Games held?

Ans. Atlanta, USA.

Q. With what activity is the Multilateral Investment Guarantee Agency (MIGA) associated?

Ans. MIGA, the newest member of the World Bank group, is charged with the principal responsibility for the promotion of private investment for economic development in member countries.

Q. On its 58th anniversary the Indian Air Force decided to change its colours in keeping with the ethos and tradition of aviation the world over? Henceforth what will be the colour of Air Force summer uniform and ceremonials?

Ans. Blue. Previously it was Khaki.

Q. The IMF currency—Special Drawing Rights or SDR—is set as a basket of which five currencies?

Ans. Dollar, French Franc, Pound, German mark and Japanese Yen. Currently 42 per cent of the value is the value of dollar, 19 per cent the value of the mark, 15 per cent for the yen and 12 per cent for the franc and the pound. This proportion was set in 1986.

The proportion is revised every five years. Beginning January 1, 1991 the proportion will be 40 per cent for the dollar, 21 per cent for the mark, 17 per cent for the yen and 11 per cent each for the pound and the franc.

The SDR is not printed in notes or stamped as coin and is not used in private trade. It exists only as a book-

keeping entry.

Q. Which day was observed as the National Energy Conservation Day?

Ans. November 9, 1990.

Q. Name the countries which will constitute the UN Security Council for a two-year term beginning January 1, 1991?

Ans. India, Austria, Belgium, Ecuador, Zimbabwe, Cuba, Ivory Coast, Romania, Yemen and Zaire.

The Security Council comprises of five permanent, veto empowered, members, namely, Britain, China, France, USSR and USA and 10 non-permanent members.

Q. Which year is to be celebrated as the international space year?

Ans. 1992.

Q. Who is the winner of the Indira Gandhi national integration award, 1990?

Ans. M.S. Subbulakshmi, renowned vocalist.

Q. In which State is the Kakrapar Atomic Power Station (KAPS) situated?

Ans. Gujarat.

Q. What are the provisions of the 76th Constitution Amendment bill?

Ans. It seeks to extend the tenure of President's rule in Punjab by another six months from November 10, 1990.

Q. What is the present debt service ratio of India?

Ans. 30 per cent. The total debt has risen to over Rs 100,000 crore.

Q. Which year has been declared as SAARC year of the girl child?

Ans. 1990.

Q. Who is the youngest man

ever to win the US Open Tennis Championship?

Ans. Pete Sampras of USA.

Q. Who is the author of the book Possession?

Ans. A.S. Byatt, winner of 1990 Booker Prize.

Q. What is Indian Broadcasting (Programme) Service IB(P)S?

Ans. It is a special recruitment channel for Radio and Doordarshan. The IB(P)S was first conceived in 1982 and was even approved by the Union Public Service Commission (UPSC) and the Union Cabinet in 1985. The government finally notified it on November 5, 1990. It is proposed that any transfer or change relating to the members of the service will be confined to Radio and Doordarshan thus bringing in greater professionalism.

Q. What minimum cane price has been fixed for 1990-91?

Ans. Rs 23.

Q. What does the "Sky to Ocean" expedition pertain to?

Ans. It is a 20-member Indo-American expedition, led by Colonel Narinder Kumar, attempting to raft down the river Ganga from its sources high in the Himalayas to its outflow into the Bay of Bengal.

Q. Name the new Prime Minister of Pakistan?

Ans. Mohammed Nawaz Sharif, leader of the Islami Jamhoori Ittehad (IJI).

Q. The 1994 Asian Games will be held in which country?

Ans. Hiroshima, Japan.

Q. Name the fastest man and fastest woman of the 1990 Beijing Asian Games?

Ans. Talal Mansoor (Qatar) and Tian Yumei (China) respectively.

SPORTS

ASIAN GAMES

Important Gold Medal Winners ARCHERY

Men's individual: Yang Chang Hoon (S. Korea)

Women's individual: Lee Jang-Mi (S. Korea)

Men's team: South Korea

Women's team: South Korea

ATHLETICS

MEN

Hammer throw: Bi Zhong (China)

100 m: Talal Mansoor (Qatar)

10,000 m: Koichi Morishita (Japan)

110 m hurdles: Yu Zhicheng (China)

20 km walk: Mao Xinyuan (China)

Shot put: Cheng Shaobo (China)

Decathlon: Munehiro Kaneko (Japan)

400 m: Mohammed Al-Malki (Oman)

1,500 m: Mohd Sulciman (Qatar)

Marathon: Kim Won-Tak (S. Korea)

50 km walk: Zhou Zhaowen (China)

Discus: Zhang Jinglong

Long jump: Chen Zunrong

4x400 m relay: Japan

3000 m steeplechase: Kazuhito Yamada (Japan)

Javelin: Masami Yoshida (Japan)

Pole vault: Liang Xueren (China)

200 m: Takano Susumu (Japan)

800 m: Kim Bong-Yoo (S. Korea)

5000 m: Mohd Sulciman (Qatar)

4x100 m relay: China

400 m hurdles: Ghulam Abbas (Pakistan)

High jump: Zhou Zhongge (China)

Triple jump: Chen Yanping (China)

WOMEN

Long jump: Xiong Qiyang (China)

10,000 m: Zhong Huandi (China)

10 km walk: Chen Yueling (China)

200 m: Han Qing (China)

800 m: Li Wenhong (China)

400 m hurdles: Chen Jying (China)

Javelin throw: Zhang Li (China)

High jump: Megumi Sato (Japan)

4x400 m relay: China

Marathon: Zhao Youfeng (China)

3000 m: Zhong Huandi (China)

Shot put: Sui Xinmei (China)

100 m: Tian Yumei (China)

100 m hurdles: Liu Huijin

400 m: Li Guihan (China)

1,500 m: Zheng Lijuan (China)

4x100 m relay: China

Discus throw: Huo Xugui (China)

Heptathlon: Ma Miaolan (China)

BOXING

48 kg: Yang Suk-Jin (S. Korea)

51 kg: Lee Chang-Hwan (S. Korea)

54 kg: Roberto Jalnaiz (Philippines)

57 kg: Raiman Boonthom (Thailand)

60 kg: Lee Jae-Kwon (S. Korea)

67 kg: Chainarong Kanha (Thailand)

75 kg: Pino Bahari (Indonesia)

91 kg: Chae Sung-Bae (S. Korea)

Over 91 kg: Baik Hyun-Man (S. Korea)

CANOEING

MEN

500 m kayak singles: China

500 m K-2: S. Korea

500 m K-4: China

1000 m K-1: S. Korea

1000 m K-2: S. Korea

1000 m K-4: China

500 m canoe singles: China

500 m C-2: China

1000 m C-1: China

1000 m C-2: China

WOMEN

500 m kayak singles: China

500 m K-2: China

500 m K-4: China

CYCLING

MEN

100 km team trial: China

1 km team trial: Jojima Keiji (Japan)

4 km individual pursuit: Park Min-Su (S. Korea)

50 km points race: Park Min-Su (S. Korea)

Sprint: Hideki Mewa (Japan)

4-km team pursuit: Japan

WOMEN

1 km team trial: Zhon Lin Mei (China)

3 km individual pursuit: Zhao Yi (China)

Sprint: Zhou Shumin (China)

70 km individual road race: Lu Suyan (China)

DIVING

MEN

Springboard: Tan I angle (China)

Platform: Sun Shumei (China)

Team title: China

WOMEN

Springboard: Gao Min (China)

Platform: Xu Yanmei (China)

Team title: China

GYMNASTICS

MEN

Team event: China

All round: Li Jing (China)

Floor exercises: Li Xiao Shuang (China)

Pommel horse: Guo Lanyue (China)

Roman rings: Li Ke (China)

Horse vault: Li Jung (China)

Horizontal bar: Pae Gil Su (N. Korea)

Parallel bars: Lee Joo-Huang (South Korea)

Rings: Li Ke (China)

WOMEN

Team event: China

All round: Chen Cuting (China)

Asymmetric bars: Fan Di (China)

Balance beam: Li Chun-Mi (N. Korea)

Floor exercises: Chen Cuting (China)

Vault horse: Kyoko Seo (Japan)

JUDO

MEN

Halfweight: Yasuhiro Kai (Japan)

Heavyweight: Hwang Jae-gil (N. Korea)

Middleweight: Hirofuka Okada (Japan)

Half middleweight: Kim Byung-Joo (S. Korea)

Lightweight: Chung Hoon (S. Korea)

Half-light: Masahiko Okuma (Japan)

WOMEN

Middleweight: Zhang Di (China)

Light-middleweight: Jin Xianglan (China)

Half-lightweight: Matsumi Veda (Japan)

Open: Hideyuki Sekine (Japan)

Light: Li Zhongyun (China)

Extra light: Fumiko Isaki (Japan)

Open: Zhuang Xiaoyan (China)

ROWING

MEN

Eights: China

Single sculls: Li Zhong Ping (China)

Double sculls: Huang Xiaoping, Chen Aiqun (China)

Lightweight single sculls: Shen Hongfei (China)

Lightweight double sculls: Xie Yifan, Fang Shanqiang (China)

Lightweight coxswainless fours: China

Coxswainless pairs: China

Coxswainless fours: China

WOMEN

Lightweight single sculls: Liang Sanmei (China)

Lightweight coxswainless fours: China

Single sculls: Cao Mianying (China)

Lightweight double sculls: Liang Sanmei (China)

Coxswainless pairs: China

Coxswainless fours: China

SHOOTING

MEN

Team rifle: Japan

Individual air rifle: Ahn Byung-Kyun (South Korea)

Tennis free pistol: China

Individual free pistol: Xu Hai Feng (China)

Team trap: N. Korea

Individual 50 m running target: Ji Gang (China)

Team 50 m running target: China

Rapid fire pistol: Wang Runxi (China)

Rapid fire pistol team: South Korea

Standard bore rifle: China
Trap event: Pac Won-guk (S. Korea)
Small bore rifle: Lee Eun-Chul (S. Korea)
Air pistol: Zhang Sheng-we (China)
Team final (air pistol): China
Running target: Huang Shiping (China)
Team final (running target): China
Centre fire pistol: Park Byung-Tack (S. Korea)
Team final (centre fire pistol): China
Team final (small bore rifle): South Korea
Skeel team: N. Korea
Standard pistol: Wang Hui (China)
Team final (standard pistol): China
WOMEN

Team sport pistol: China
Individual sport pistol: Li Dai Hong (China)
Individual S-B standard rifle: Zhang Qunping (China)
S-B standard rifle (team): North Korea
Team trap: China
Trap event: Wang Yu Jin (China)
Small bore rifle: Yoko Minamoto (Japan)
Team final (small bore rifle): China
Air pistol: Wang Lina (China)
Team final (air pistol): China
Skeel team: China

SWIMMING

MEN

100 m breast-stroke: Chen Jianhong (China)
200 m freestyle: Xie Jun (China)
100 m butterfly: Shen Jianqiang (China)
400 m individual medley: Takahiro Fujimoto (Japan)
4 x 200 m freestyle: Japan
200 m backstroke: Ji Sang-Joon (S. Korea)
100 m freestyle: Shen Jianqiang (China)
400 m freestyle: Tomohiro Noguchi (Japan)
200 m breast-stroke: Kenji Watanabe (Japan)
4 x 100 m freestyle relay: China
50 m freestyle: Shen Jianqiang (China)
100 m back-stroke: Lin Lijun (China)
200 m butterfly: Kunio Sugimoto (Japan)
200 m individual medley: Takahiro Fujimoto (Japan)
4 x 100 m medley relay: China
1,500 m freestyle: Masayuki Fujimoto (Japan)

WOMEN

100 m freestyle: Zhuang Yong (China)
400 m Individual Medley: Lin Li (China)
200 m freestyle: Zhuang Yong (China)
200 m breast-stroke: Lin Li (China)
400 m freestyle: Yang Ming (China)
100 m backstroke: Yang Wenyi (China)
4 x 100 m freestyle relay: (China)
100 m breast-stroke: Huang Xiaomin (China)
100 m butterfly: Wang Xiaohong (China)
800 m freestyle: Yan Ming (China)
4 x 100 m medley relay: China
200 m individual medley: Lin Li (China)
200 m butterfly: Wang Xiaohong (China)
50 m freestyle: Yang Wenyi (China)
200 m backstroke: Lin Li (China)

WEIGHTLIFTING

MEN

52 kg: He Zhuoqiang (China)
56 kg: Chun Byung-kwan (S. Korea)
60 kg: The Yingqiang (China)
67.5 kg: Kim Myong-nam (N. Korea)
75 kg: Chon Chol Ho (N. Korea)
82.5 kg: Ycom Dong-Chul (S. Korea)
90 kg: Kim Byung Chan (S. Korea)
100 kg: Hwang Hoo (S. Korea)
110 kg: Kim Tae-Hyun
Over 110 kg: Cai Li (China)

WOMEN

44 kg: Xing Gen (China)
48 kg: Huang Xiaoyu (China)
52 kg: Peng Laping (China)
56 kg: Xing Li Wei (China)
60 kg: Ma Na (China)
67 kg: Guo Quxiang (China)
75 kg: Shi Win (China)
82.5 kg: Li Hongling (China)
Over 82.5 kg: Han Changmei (China)

WRESTLING

Greco Roman

48 kg: Gooun Du-Young (South Korea)
57 kg: Si Jin-Chul (South Korea)
68 kg: Moon Chung-Sik (S. Korea)
100 kg: Bao Yu (China)
82 kg: Kim Sang-Ky (S. Korea)
52 kg: An Han-Bong (S. Korea)
62 kg: Shigeki Nishiguchi (Japan)
74 kg: Han Chee-Ho (S. Korea)
90 kg: Ueon Jin-Han (S. Korea)
130 kg: Hu Kigo (China)

Freestyle

48 kg: Kim Jong Shin (S. Korea)
57 kg: Kim Yong Sik (N. Korea)
68 kg: Park Jang-Soon (S. Korea)
82 kg: Subbat Puntsagin (Mongolia)
100 kg: Kim Tae Woo (S. Korea)
130 kg: Reza Sokhteh-Sarajee (Iran)

YACHTING

MEN

Laser class: S. Korea
Enterprise class: Pakistan
Optimist class: Japan
470 class: Japan
Lechner A-390 class: China
WOMEN
470 class: Japan
Lechner A-390 class: China

Important Games

BADMINTON

Men's team: China
Women's team: China
Men's singles: Zhao Jianhua (China)
Women's singles: Tang Jiahong (China)

FOOTBALL

Men: Iran
Women: China
HOCKEY
Men: Pakistan
Women: South Korea

KABADDI

India

TABLE TENNIS

Men's singles: Ma Winge (China)
Women's singles: Deng Yaping (China)

TENNIS

Men's team: China
Men's singles: Pan Bing (China)
Women's team: Japan
Women's singles: Akiko Kijimuta (Japan)

VOLLEYBALL

Men: China
Women: China

ATHLETICS

Beijing marathon: Denmark's Peter Dall has won the men's title with a timing of 2:14:55. The women's title was won by China's Li Yemei. Her timing was 2:32:14.

BOXING

World heavyweight championship: Evander Holyfield knocked out James "Buster" Douglas to win the title.

CRICKET

Pakistan-New Zealand Test series: Pakistan clinched the three-Test series 3-0. In the first Test match New Zealand was beaten by an innings and 43 runs. In the second Test New Zealand lost by nine wickets and in the third match by 65 runs.

Iran Trophy: Rest of India defeated Bengal, winners of the Ranji Trophy, by virtue of their first innings lead. This was the 10th triumph for Rest of India in the 27 years this match has been played.

FOOTBALL

Durand Cup: East Bengal retained the Cup when they defeated Bombay's Mahindra & Mahindra 3-2 in the final.

Subroto Cup: St Ignatius High School from Gumla (Bihar) annexed the Cup by defeating Arya Vidyapeeth (Guwahati) 5-3 in a tie-breaker.

HOCKEY

11th Sanjay Gandhi tournament: Punjab and Sind Bank were declared winners after the final came to an abrupt end when a fight broke out between players of PSB and Namdhari XI.

MOTORING

11th Himalayan Car Rally: Stephan Uhl and his brother Michael Uhl of Germany.

TENNIS

German Masters Women's tournament: Martina Navratilova.
Berlin open men's tournament: Ronald Agener (Italy)
Women's European indoor tournament: Steffi Graf.

Stockholm open: Boris Becker.
National Junior Championship:
Boys: Sandeep Kirtane
Girls: K. Janaki

VOLLEYBALL

12th world men's championship: Italy defeated Cuba in a four-set match.

Current General Knowledge

ABBREVIATION

PEACE: Protection of Environment for Achieving Cleaner Earth.

AWARDS

Nobel Prizes, 1990

For peace: Soviet President Mr Mikhail Gorbachov for championing reform in Eastern Europe and helping to end the cold war.

For literature: Mexican poet and essayist, Mr Octavio Paz "for impassioned writing with wide horizons, characterised by sensuous intelligence and humanistic integrity".

For medicine: Dr Joseph E. Murray and Dr E. Donall Thomas for their discoveries concerning "organ and cell transplantation in the treatment of human disease".

For physics: Jerome I. Freidman (USA), Henry W. Kendall (USA) and Richard E. Taylor (Canada) for making a breakthrough in man's understanding of the structure of matter.

For economics: Harry Harlow, Merton Miller and William Sharpe, all Americans, for pioneering the theory of financial economics and corporate finance.

For chemistry: Elias James Corey of USA for his "development of the theory and methodology of organic synthesis".

Bharat Ratna

The African nationalist leader, Dr Nelson Mandela, has been honoured with Bharat Ratna, highest civilian award of India.

Dr Mandela is the second foreign national to receive the award. The first foreign recipient was the Frontier Gandhi Khan Abdul Ghaffar Khan.

Dhanvantari Award, 1990

Dr M.C. Modi has been awarded the 1990 Dhanvantari award. He has earned the title of "India's cataract king" for his record breaking

feat of performing 833 cataract operations on a single day at Tirupati. He has performed half-a-million operations and has treated 15 lakh people, earning a place in the Guinness Book of World Records.

Booker Prize, 1990

The prestigious Booker Prize for fiction has been awarded to the novelist A.S. Byatt for her book *Possession*.

The prize carries a sum of 20,000 pounds sterling.

Indira Gandhi Award for National Integration, 1990

The prestigious award has been given to noted vocalist Mrs M.S. Subbulakshmi.

The award has been instituted by the Congress-I and is given in recognition of outstanding contribution to the cause of national integration.

Soviet Land Nehru Award, 1990

Mother Teresa has been nominated for the 1990 Soviet Land Nehru award for her outstanding contribution in helping the poor and unfortunate all over the world and for promoting Indo-Soviet friendship.

The award carries Rs one lakh cash prize and invitation to visit the Soviet Union for a fortnight.

UNESCO Human Rights Award, 1990

The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation has awarded its annual human rights prize to President Vaclav Havel of Czechoslovakia.

Tansen Samman, 1990

The prestigious Tansen Samman for 1990 has been awarded to leading *Dhrupad* singer Ustad Nasir Aminuddin Dagar.

The award has been instituted by the Government of Madhya Pradesh and carries Rs 51,000 in cash and a citation.

BOOKS

Labyrinth of Solitude, The

This is the best known book of Mexican poet and essayist, Mr Octavio Paz, winner of the 1990 Nobel prize for literature.

In this book the author offers a controversial and often starting analysis of modern Mexico and the Mexican personality. He describes his fellow countrymen as instinctive 'nihilists' (those who believe that existence is senseless and useless) who hide behind masks of solitude. Many Mexicans shun this as an unfair portrait.

Possession

Possession is written by A.S. Byatt, winner of the 1990 Booker prize for fiction. The book is a literary romance between two academics working on the lives of two Victorian poets. The tale is interlocked with the interaction between the two secretive Victorian personalities whose passionate relationship is discovered in the course of research by the scholars.

DAYS; YEARS

Conserve Energy Day

November 9, 1990 was observed as National Energy Conservation Day in order to generate awareness of the urgent need to conserve energy.

DEFENCE

INS Kattabomman commissioned

The Rs 122 crore Very Low Frequency (VLF) station of Indian Navy, the first of its kind in Asia, INS Kattabomman, was commissioned by President R. Venkataraman on October 21, 1990.

The VLF station is a highly sophisticated communication network. It is possessed by only two or three other countries of the world. It will help in communicating with submarines operating under water at long ranges.

EXPEDITIONS

10th Expedition to Antarctica

The 10th Indian expedition to Antarctica will leave around November 28, 1990 from Goa. The contingent will comprise of 70 members who will work along with the 30 members, of the 9th expedition, who had stayed back to work at the Indian base camps *Dakshin Gangotri* and *Maitri*.

The scientists will continue experiments on the atmosphere at different levels including studies on the ozone hole over Antarctica. Other subjects of study will be cloud and ice formation, marine biology and adaptation of marine and land organisms to freezing temperatures.

PERSONS

Corey, Elias James

A professor at Harvard University, he is the winner of 1990 Nobel prize for chemistry. The award has been given to him for the development of the theory and methodology of organic synthesis.

Freidman, Dr Jerome I.

Dr Freidman of Chicago, Illinois, USA is co-winner of the 1990 Nobel prize for physics. He is a professor at Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT). The award has been given for making a breakthrough in understanding of the structure of matter.

During experiments at the Stanford Linear Accelerator Centre in California, he, along with Dr Henry W. Kendall of Boston, Massachusetts and Dr Richard E. Taylor of Canada, was able to find traces of quarks, the basic building blocks of matter. Their experiment showed definitely that there were smaller nuclear particles than protons and neutrons.

Gorbachov, Mikhail S.

Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachov is the winner of the 1990 Nobel Peace prize for championing reform in Eastern Europe and helping end the cold war.

He was born on March 2, 1931, at Privolnoe in Satavropol region. He took a degree in law from Moscow State University. He joined the CPSU

in 1952. On March 15, 1990 he took over as the first executive President of the Soviet Union.

Harkowitz, Harry

He is the winner of the 1990 Nobel prize for economics. He belongs to the City University of New York, USA and was awarded the prize for developing the theory of portfolio choice.

Kendall, Dr Henry W.

See under Freidman, Dr Jerome I.

Krishna, Manmohan

Popular character actor Manmohan Krishna, who captivated cinegoers with his highly sensitive portrayals, for more than four decades, died on November 3, 1990.

He started his career with Late V. Shantaram after a chance meeting with him in 1945. *Andhon Ki Duniya* was his first film as a hero.

A respected film personality, he acted in about 250 films. His portrayal of Abdul Chacha in *Dhool Ka Phool* is still remembered. He was also an established stage actor.

Mehra, Vinod

Noted film star, Vinod Mehra died on October 30, 1990 at the age of 45.

He was born on February 13, 1945 in Amritsar. He did his bachelor of arts from St Xavier's College, Bombay. He had acted in nearly 50 films, starting as a leading man in *Pardey Ke Peechay* and *Ek Thi Reeta*. Among his other notable films were *Anurag*, *Bemisaal*, *Lal Pathar*, *Do Phool*, *Ghar* and *Aklur Kyon*.

Merton Miller

Merton Miller was in the news for being awarded the 1990 Nobel prize for economics. He was honoured for his fundamental contributions to the theory of corporate finance. He belongs to the University of Chicago, USA.

Murray, Dr Joseph E.

Dr Joseph E. Murray is the winner of the 1990 Nobel prize for medicine. He discovered how rejection, following organ transplantation in man, could be mastered.

He successfully transplanted a kidney between homozygous twins,

for the first time. He pioneered transplantation of kidneys obtained from deceased persons and could show that patients with terminal renal insufficiency could be cured.

Paz, Octavio

He is the winner of the 1990 Nobel prize for literature. Born in Mexico city on March 31, 1914, Mr Paz attended the National University of Mexico before going abroad as a diplomat. He used to write poetry and essays in his free time.

One of his first assignments was as secretary at the Mexican Embassy in Paris in 1945. He was named Ambassador to India in 1962.

He has described himself as a "disillusioned leftist". His early fascination with socialism faded after he became aware of restricted political and cultural freedom in the Soviet Union and Cuba.

His best known book is "The Labyrinth of Solitude". Many of his critical works are, perhaps, too specialised to gain popularity outside academic circles, but in his poetry he has managed to transcend all barriers.

Ramdas, Admiral Laxminarain

He is the new Chief of Naval Staff. A specialist in communications, he has held a wide range of operational and staff appointments that eminently qualify him for the new position.

He was awarded the Vir Chakra for distinguished action by the frigate, *Beas*, under his command in the Bay of Bengal during the 1971 Indo-Pak conflict. He was one of the first batch of officers to pass out of the National Defence College.

Shantaram, Dr V.

Dr V. Shantaram, India's most respected film maker, died on October 28, 1990. He was 90.

He made a mark on the theatre scene with his vivid portrayal of roles, meant for women. In the early forties, when the freedom movement was gaining momentum, he decided to make his contribution through the celluloid medium.

He was born in Kolhapur on

November 18, 1901. He was not interested in studies and tried his hand at various vocations. At the age of 13 he joined the *Gandharva Natak Mandal* run by the great singer and actor Bal Gandharva.

After apprenticeship under Baburao Painter in Kolhapur he went on to form the Prabhat company in Pune. Under the banner of Prabhat he directed films like *Aadmi*, *Padosi*, *Duniya Na Mane* and *Sant Gyaneshwar*.

Following a split in the Prabhat group he came to Bombay and purchased his own studio which was christened as 'Rajkamal Kalamandir'. Under the banner of 'V. Shantaram Films' he made *Shakuntla* which ran over 103 weeks at the Royal Opera House.

He also made the first full length film on the classical style of dancing *Jhanak Jhanak Payal Baje*.

He was a great idealist and his *Aadmi* and *Amrit Manthan* proved this to great extent. His *Duniya Na Mane* projected him a great social reformer and *Padosi*, on the theme of Hindu-Muslim unity, made him known as a great political thinker.

Sharpe, William

William Sharpe is the winner of the 1990 Nobel prize for economics. He belongs to the Stanford University, USA. He has won the award for his contributions to the theory of price formation for financial assets—the so-called capital assets pricing model (CAPM).

Taylor, Dr Richard E.

See under *Freidman, Dr Jerome I.*

Thomas, Dr E. Donall

He is the winner of the 1990 Nobel prize for medicine. Through research he has managed to diminish the severe reaction the graft can cause in the recipient of organ, the so-called "graft-versus-host" reaction (GVH). In addition he could show that intravenously infused bone marrow cells were able to repopulate the bone marrow and produce new blood cells. He was successful in transplanting bone marrow cells from one individual to another.

Tripathi, Kamalapati

Kamalapati Tripathi, whose public life spanned nearly seven decades, was one of the oldguards of India's freedom struggle. He died on October 8, 1990 at the age of 85.

He was born on September 3, 1905 at Aurangabad village in Varanasi district of Uttar Pradesh in a deeply religious and renowned family.

After his initial schooling at Aurangabad he moved on to Varanasi from where he took the degree of Shastri of Kashi Vidyapeeth, an institution symbolising nation's awakening, in 1925. Later he was drawn towards journalism and was associated with *Aaj* and *Sansar*—both popular hindi dailies in those years.

Besides taking active part in Congress activities, he did much to serve the cause of freedom through his powerful writings.

In April 1971 he became Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh and held the office till June 1973. Subsequently he was elected to the Rajya Sabha and inducted into the Union Cabinet.

A prolific writer, he authored many books on a variety of subjects such as history, religion, politics and journalism. Some of these were: *Maurya Bharat*, *Islami Duniya ka Sar-taj*, *Bapu aur Bharat*, *Bandi ki Chetna* and *Bapu aur Manavata*.

SPACE RESEARCH

Ulysses launched into the unknown

On October 6, 1990 a new voyage into the unknown of the deep space began, when Ulysses scientific spacecraft was launched aloft the US space shuttle, Discovery.

For NASA it was a great occasion as the successful launch of the space shuttle would reinforce the programme which had been coming under greater governmental scrutiny because of a series of setbacks.

Ulysses is a trail-blazing mission because it will be the first time that a spacecraft will travel the polar regions of the sun, away from the usual ecliptic plane. This unique trajectory will take the spacecraft into

the uncharted third dimension of the heliosphere.

To achieve the necessary orbit, Ulysses is now flying towards Jupiter so that it can use the gravitational field of that planet to give it the necessary boost to be able to fly over the poles of the sun. Thus, throughout its five-year mission, Ulysses will look into previously unexplored regions of the uninhabited world beyond the sun.

Although much progress has been made in our attempts to understand the sun's environment and its influence on the earth, measurements from space have so far been limited because spacecraft have been confined to the ecliptic plane.

Consequently, scientists have been able to sample only conditions corresponding to a very small slice of solar latitude. (The sun's spin axis is tilted at seven degrees to the ecliptic and so the earth never manages to get above or below the sun's equator by more than seven degrees of solar latitude, in the course of a year.)

Satellite launching project

India has mooted a proposal for launching satellites under a new global joint initiative for monitoring the ozone layer and related environment studies.

The proposed project, Protection of Environment for Achieving Cleaner Earth (PEACE), is aimed at strengthening global co-operation in the field of environmental protection and also to provide easier information and access to developing countries. The project envisages the launching of joint satellites on a continuous basis with the outlay for a single launch projected at Rs 100 crore.

The deployment of these satellites would help monitoring of the ozone layer, trace gases and temperature measurements, thus leading to a total understanding of the environment. The response from various countries has been very encouraging.

The proposed project forms part of the efforts to celebrate 1992 as the International Space Year on a wide scale.

Improve Your Word Power

1. **abrasive:** (a) polite (b) modest (c) rough (d) active.
2. **badger:** (a) convince (b) persuade (c) pester (d) attempt.
3. **casus belli:** (L) (a) cause of conflict (b) cause of calamity (c) peace-treaty (d) event leading to war.
4. **dovetail:** (a) pull (b) push (c) carry (d) combine.
5. **epistle:** (a) letter (b) note (c) sermon (d) practice.
6. **faux pas:** (F) (a) indiscreet remark (b) tragedy (c) comedy (d) golden opportunity.
7. **gloss:** (a) shine (b) pompous (c) explanation (d) criticism.
8. **huckster:** (a) beggar (b) hawker (c) saint (d) salesman.
9. **inveterate:** (a) reformed (b) deep-rooted (c) deformed (d) informed.
10. **juggernaut:** (a) powerful institution (b) attachment (c) shrine (d) monument.

11. **kick-back:** (a) illegal money (b) legal tender (c) profits (d) wages.
12. **liaison:** (a) compliment (b) supplement (c) subordinate (d) communication and cooperation.
13. **maul:** (a) handle gently (b) caress (c) handle roughly (d) encircle.
14. **obsequious:** (a) disrespectful (b) too respectful (c) discourteous (d) flattering.
15. **prevaricate:** (a) exaggerate (b) equivocate (c) suppress (d) express oneself.
16. **quandary:** (a) comfortable situation (b) war-like (c) confrontation (d) awkward situation.
17. **tepid:** (a) warm (b) hot (c) lukewarm (d) cold.
18. **weird:** (a) strange (b) normal (c) natural (d) human.
19. **yowl:** (a) abuse (b) cry loud (c) rebuke (d) praise.
20. **zealot:** (a) impartial (b) neutral (c) detached (d) fanatic.

ANSWERS

1. **abrasive:** (c) rough, harsh, offensive.
—We are prone to making more enemies than friends due to our *abrasive* and aggressive behaviour.
2. **badger:** (c) pester, nag.
—In the fair, children *badger* their parents to buy them all sorts of things on display.
3. **casus belli:** (L) (d) act/event leading to justifying war.
—In Pakistan's case, Kashmir is — as it has always been, a *casus belli*.
4. **dovetail:** (d) combine, fit together.
—In the Gulf crisis there should have been an endeavour on the part of NAM to *dovetail* their immediate national interests into international concerns.
5. **epistle:** (a) letter.
—The mother sends her daughter a long *epistle* every week.
6. **faux pas:** (F) (a) indiscreet remark, embarrassing mistake.
—In public life, a single *faux pas* is enough to seal one's political career for ever.
7. **gloss:** (c) explanation, interpretation.
—The political commentator has put a different *gloss* on recent developments in the Eastern Europe.
8. **huckster:** (b) hawker.
—Whenever there is tension in the town, the *hucksters* prefer to stay back at home.
9. **inveterate:** (b) addicted, deep-rooted, obstinate.
—We are likely to poison the stream of life by our *inveterate* prejudices towards others.
10. **juggernaut:** (a) powerful institution.
—Benefits of planning have not reached the poorest of the poor due to red tapism and the *juggernaut* of bureaucracy.

11. **kick-back:** (a) illegal money, bribe.
—The press has brought to light payment of *kick-backs* in many defence deals round the world.
12. **liaison:** (d) communication and cooperation.
—Only that officer commands respect from his subordinates who is able to maintain excellent rapport and *liaison* with them.
13. **maul:** (c) handle roughly.
—Critics have badly *mauled* the latest book on Indian art and architecture.
14. **obsequious:** (b) too respectful.
—A worker who is *obsequious* to the boss stands to gain in the long run.
15. **prevaricate:** (b) equivocate, quibble, speak/act evasively.
—On controversial issues, most of the parties and their leaders prefer to *prevaricate*.
16. **quandary:** (d) awkward/difficult situation.
—As a result of the Gulf crisis, foreign nationals in Kuwait and Iraq were caught in a state of *quandary*.
17. **tepid:** (c) lukewarm.
—The speaker was discouraged when the audience gave him only a *tepid* applause for his scholarly discourse.
18. **weird:** (a) strange, unnatural.
—While passing through the forest at night, we heard *weird* shrieks coming from different directions.
19. **yowl:** (b) cry/wail loud.
—The cats *yowling* at night is thought to be a bad omen.
20. **zealot:** (d) fanatic, extremely partisan.
—Religious *zealots* pose a constant threat to national unity and emotional integration of India.

Appointments Etc

Appointed; Elected Etc

Chandra Shekhar: He has been appointed as the new Prime Minister of India.

Gro Harlem Brundtland: He has been appointed as the Prime Minister of Norway.

Jon Bolger: He has been elected as the Prime Minister of New Zealand.

Mohammed Nawaz Sharif: He has been elected Prime Minister of Pakistan.

Admiral Laxminarain Ramdas: He has been appointed Chief of the Indian Navy.

S. Bangarappa: He has been elected Chief Minister of Karnataka.

Alexander Ammoun: He has been appointed as Lebanon's Ambassador to India.

Shunji Kobayashi: He has been appointed as the new Ambassador of Japan to India.

Resigned

V.P. Singh: Prime Minister of India.

Jan P. Syse: Prime Minister of Norway.

Kuldip Nayar: India's High Commissioner to U.K.

Distinguished Visitors

Nelson Mandela: Deputy President of the African National Congress.

R. Chongo: Minister of Commerce and Industry, Zambia.

Jiri Dienstbier: Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister of Czech and Slovak Federal Republic.

Died

Dr V. Shantaram: Veteran film director of Indian cinema. He was 90.

Williamson Sangma: Former Governor of Mizoram and three-time Chief Minister of Meghalaya. He was 71.

Mrs M.L. Vasanthakumari: Veteran exponent of carnatic music. She was 65. **Vinod Mehra:** Noted film actor. He was 45.

Om Shivpuri: Noted character actor of Indian films. He was 52.

Manmohan Krishna: Noted character actor and director of Indian film industry. He was 68.

P.R. Sarkar: Founder of the *Ananda Marg*. He was 69.

EVENTS

OCTOBER

10—President's rule is imposed in Karnataka. The 11-month old Congress-I ministry headed by Mr Veerendra Patil is dismissed.

14—Government announces 25 per cent hike in petroleum prices.

17—President's rule in Karnataka is removed. Mr S. Bangarappa is sworn-in as Chief Minister.

19—33 persons are killed in terrorist

linked violence in Punjab.

23—Mr Lal Krishan Advani, President of BJP, is arrested in Samastipur in Bihar to stop his *rath yatra*.

—BJP withdraws support to National Front government in retaliation to Mr L.K. Advani's arrest.

24—More than 80 persons are killed in arson and violence following the call of BJP for an all-India bandh to protest against Mr

Advani's arrest.

25—10 terrorists are among 33 killed in Punjab.

—The Islami Jamhoori Ittehad captures power in Pakistan. Ms Benazir Bhutto's People's Democratic Alliance is routed in polls.

26—President George Bush of USA decides to send another one lakh troops to the Gulf.

—The Chimanbhai Patel government in Gujarat and the Bhairon Singh Shekhawat ministry in Rajasthan are reduced to minority following the withdrawal of support by the BJP in Gujarat and the Janata Dal in Rajasthan.

30—*Karsevaks* storm the disputed Babri Masjid-Temple site in Ayodhya. Five persons are killed and over 100 injured in police firing.

NOVEMBER

1—More than 100 people are killed in violence in Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, UP and Bihar.

4—Terrorists massacre 20 people in a Gurdaspur village in Punjab.

5—Janata Dal rebels elect Chandra Shekhar as their leader resulting in a split in Janata Dal.

6—Mr Mohammed Nawaz Sharif is sworn-in as the Prime Minister of Pakistan.

7—Prime Minister V.P. Singh resigns following loss of confidence vote in Lok Sabha.

9—Mr Chandra Shekhar is sworn-in as the eighth Prime Minister of India. Mr Devi Lal is sworn-in as Deputy Prime Minister.

—New statute is promulgated in Nepal.

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